

31st December 1953] [Sri M. Ethirajulu]

மந்திரி அவர்கள் நேரிலேயே வந்து பார்த்தார்கள். சர்க்கார் அதைக் கவனித்து படுக்கை விஸ்தரிப்பைக் கண்டிப்பாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“முக்கியமாக, அந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் ஸ்பெஷல் வார்டு கிடையாது. டாக்டர்களுக்கும் நர்சுகளுக்கும் போதுமான இடமிருந்தும் கூட (quarters) குடியிருப்பு வசதி கிடையாது. இவ்விதமான நிலையில் சுகாதாரவசதி மிகவும் குறைவாக இருந்தால், எப்படி பொது ஜனங்கள் நன்றாக வாழ முடியும் என்று கேட்கின்றேன். அதையும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கவனிக்க வேண்டும்.

“கொண்டங்கி ஏரியும், திருவகிந்திபுரத்திலுள்ள அணைக்கட்டும் 2,000 ஏக்கருக்கு நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியுள்ளவை. அது சரிவர இல்லை. இப்பொழுது விவசாய மந்திரியாக உள்ள மதிப்பிற்குரிய கனம் ஸ்ரீ பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் கூட, அந்த இடங்கையெல்லாம் வந்து பார்த்திருக்கிறார். இவ்வாறே இன்னும் சரிவர சீர்திருத்தக்கூட முடியவில்லை. அதனால் விவசாயிகள் இந்த வருஷத்தில் பயிர் செய்யமுடியாத நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. பயிர் சரியாக வந்துகொண்டிருக்கும்போது இரண்டு மாதத்திற்குப் போதுமான தண்ணீர்தான் வருகிறது. அந்த இரண்டு மாதத்திற்குப் பிறகு, தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் அந்த இரண்டாயிரம் ஏக்கர் நிலமும் நடுமத்தியில் பாழடைந்து போகும் நிலையில் இருக்கிறது. சென்ற 10 வருஷங்களாக அரசாங்கத்திற்கு இதை எடுத்துக் காட்டி வருகிறோம். அரசாங்கம் இதை கவனித்து உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று பல கோரிக்கைகள் மூலமாகவும், நமது முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கடலூர் வந்திருந்தபோதும், விவசாய சங்கத்தின் தலைவர்களும் மற்றவர்களும் நேரில் கண்டு குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி வருகிறார்கள். ஆகவே, அதை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும் என கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால், சர்க்கார், கவனித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம் கவனித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறதே யொழிய, காரியத்தில் ஒன்றும் நடைபெறுவதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஜில்லா வின் தலைநகரமாகிய கடலூரில் இந்த அணைக்கட்டும், ஏரியும் இருப்பதால் விவசாய மக்களையும், ஏழை குடியானவர்களையும் பாதுகாக்கும் பொருட்டு முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் உடனடியாக நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் வெற்றி பெறவில்லையென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் வெற்றி பெற்றிருக்கிறது என்று நான் சொல்ல முடியும். ஏனென்றால் குடியால் நசித்துப் போன குடும்பங்களும், இருக்கும் இடமே தெரியாத இருந்த ஏழை குடும்பங்களும் மதுவிலக்கால் இப்பொழுது மீண்டும் பிரகாசித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறது. இந்தப் பெரும்பணியை முதல் மந்திரி ராஜாஜி அவர்கள்தான் செய்து வைத்தார் என்பதை யாரும் மறக்க முடியாது. அந்த மதுவிலக்கு இப்பொழுது வெற்றி பெறவில்லையென்று யார் சொல்லுகிறார்களென்றால், திருட்டுத்தனமாக கள்ளச் சாராயம் காய்ச்சபவர்களும், இதையே பிரதான ஜீவியமாக பின்பற்றுவவர்களும் சொல்லுகிறார்களேதவிர, உண்மையிலேயே எண்ணப்போல் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தில் வந்த ஒருவன் நன்றாக அதைக்கண்டு சந்தோஷப் படுவதைவிட வேறு யாதுமே மதுவிலக்கை குறை கூற முடியாது. இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்கிதல் கள்ளச் சாராயம் காய்ச்சி அதைத்தங்கள் ஊதியத்திற்கு பயன்படுத்துவதை ஒரு தொழிலாகக் கொண்டவர்கள் தான் மீண்டும் மதுவை வைக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆந்திரர்கள் கூட வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்கிறார்கள் என்று மேற்கோள் காட்டுகிறார்கள். குடித்து அறியாதவர்கள், குடி என்பது என்னவென்பதைத் தெரியாதவர்கள் இதை மீண்டும் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி மீண்டும் இதைக்கொண்டுவந்தால், ஏழை மக்கள் நசித்துப் போவார்கள், ஹரிஜனங்கள் நசித்துப் போவார்கள் என்பதை நான் நன்றாகக் கூறமுடியும். அதற்காக என்ன விதமான கஷ்டம் வந்தபோதிலும் இந்த சர்க்கார் மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டத்தைக் கைவிடக்கூடாது. கைவிட்டால் ஆபத்து நேரிடும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

[Sri M. Ethirajulu] [31st December 1953]

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a.m.

“வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் அதிகரித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறது. மத்திய சர்க்காரால் நமக்கு சமூக நலத் திட்டம், இன்னும் தேசிய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டம், நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டம் எல்லாம் வந்திருக்கிறது. வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தைப் பற்றி உயர்தரப் படிப்பு படித்து பட்டம் பெற்றவர்களும், எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி. படித்தவர்களும் தான் சர்க்கார் கவனத்தில் வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால், 1 முதல் 5-வது பாரம் வரையில் படித்தவர்களுக்கு எந்தவிதமான ஒரு உத்தியோகமும் கிடையாது. அவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகம் கிடைப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் முன்வரவில்லை. தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட ஜனங்களும் மற்றப்படி சமூகத்தில் பின் தங்கியவர்களும் 5-வது பாரத்திற்கு மேல் படிக்க முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களிடம் பணம் இல்லாத குறையினால், முதல் பாரத் தோடோ அல்லது 5-வது பாரத்தோடோ அதற்குமேல் போகமுடியாமல் நிறுத்திவிடுகிறார்கள். இந்த மாகாணத்தில் 14 ஜில்லாக்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அந்த ஜில்லாக்களில் அனேக தாலுகாக்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால், சர்க்கார் காரியாலயங்கள் எண்ணிறந்தவைகள் இருக்கின்றன.

“குறிப்பாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், ஒரு ரிஜிஸ்திரார் ஆபீஸ் எதிரில் நன்றாக எழுதத் தெரியாதவர்களும், ஓய்வு பெற்றவர்களும் பத்திரம் எழுதும் பழக்கம் நாளைவரை நடந்து வருகிறது. எழுதப் படிக்கத் தெரியாதவர்கள் அனேக கிராமங்களிலிருந்து அங்கே வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு பாண்டு பத்திரம் முதலியவைகள் எழுதிக்கொடுப்பதற்காக, அந்த ரிஜிஸ்திரார் ஆபீசுக்கு எதிரில் சுமார் 5, 6 பேர்கள் உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டு, இம்மாதிரி பாண்டு, பத்திரங்கள் முதலியன எழுதிக்கொடுத்து, ஒவ்வொருவரும் சுமார் 10 ரூபாய் வரையில் தினமும் பெறுகிறார்கள். கிராமத்து மக்கள் அனேகமாக எழுத படிக்கத் தெரியாதவர்களாக இருப்பதால், இம்மாதிரி எழுதிக்கொடுப்பவர்களுடைய உதவி வேண்டியிருக்கின்றது. அதற்காக பணம் செலவழிக்கின்றார்கள். அம்மாதிரி இடங்களில் எல்லாம் படித்த வாலிபர்களைக் கொண்டு வந்து, அவர்களுக்கு பயிற்சி அளித்து, சர்க்கார் அங்கீகாரம் அளித்து, ஒவ்வொரு ஆபீசுக்குச் சமீபத்திலே 5 பேர்களையாவது நியமனம் செய்தால், கிராம வாசிகளுக்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும் வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தை ஓரளவு போக்க முடியும். கிராமத்தாரிடமிருந்து ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட தொகையைத்தான் ஊதியமாக வாங்கிகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு ஏற்பாட்டையும் சர்க்கார் செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு நல்லது. தகுந்த பயிற்சிபெற்றவர்களை அங்கு நியமிப்பதனால், பாண்டு, பத்திரங்கள் முதலியன ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட முறையில் எழுதப்படும். அதனால், சர்க்கார் தஸ்தாவேஜுகள் சரிவர முறைப்படி இருக்க ஏதுவாக இருக்கும். சர்க்காருக்கு மனுக்கள் எந்த முறையில் இருக்கவேண்டுமோ அந்த முறையில் எழுதுவதன் மூலம் சர்க்காருடைய வேலை ஓரளவுக்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். 1 முதல் 5-வது பாரம் வரையில் படித்தவர்களை இம்மாதிரி வேலைக்கு பயிற்சி அளித்து எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் உடனடியாக 5 ஆயிரம் முதல் 10 ஆயிரம் பேர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்கலாம். அப்படி வேலை கிடைத்தால், படித்திருக்கும் வாலிபர்களும் மற்றவர்களும் வாழ்க்கையை நடத்துவதற்கு ஏதுவாக இருக்குமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு, இந்த விஷயத்தைப் புனராலோசனை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.”

* SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister, the Hon. the Minister for Finance and the Members of the Government on their being able to show a small surplus budget. In spite of the division of the State and the Rajahmundry floods and their relief, we have this happy result worthy of congratulation. I am also very happy to note that our Chief Minister has appointed a lady Minister, and I should like to congratulate the Government on the appointment of a lady Minister. I wonder

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whether Rajaji remembers that last year during the budget discussion I asked for the appointment of a Minister for Social Service. You said that the Minister should naturally be a lady. Now you have appointed a lady, and why have you not added to her the portfolio of social service? If you think that the lady Minister has a heavy portfolio—you certainly have given a very responsible portfolio—there are social workers amongst your Ministers, namely, Dr. U. Krishna Rao, Mr. Venkataswami Naidu, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, and Mr. Subramaniam, to one of whom you can add this portfolio of social service. I do hope that you will think it fit to have a portfolio for social service also."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Lady Member's speech must be addressed to the Chair."

* SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV :—" I beg your pardon, Sir. It is of course very easy to criticize the Government. We know that our Government have been passing through hard times, and have been turning out many excellent works. Now referring to social service, Sir, I am very sorry to say that the Government do not think it necessary enough to take into their confidence many of our social workers. Madras State abounds in social workers not to be found anywhere else in India. I say this, because you know, Sir, that we have all sorts of conferences in our State. We also go to other States. We travel a great deal and we see a great deal. Wherever we go, we see that the Madras State gets a tribute for its great volunteer army, and Madras gets all credit. The Government also get credit. You did help us, Sir, by giving us lands, exemption from sales tax, and also help in other ways. But the Government do not give us finance, and they do not give us encouragement which will help us to expand our work. I would, therefore, like to plead for more consideration and help from Government to social workers."

" The Women's Welfare Department, which to-day is well known, and which is copied by the Uttar Pradesh and Bihar States, was started by voluntary workers in this State. In the year 1946 when the Congress assumed office, there was a fear—in fact there was a real fear—that this department would be done away with. Because we had a lady Minister, we used our influence on her, and that department was retained. That department is now called the ' Department of Women's Welfare '."

" I turn now to the Madras Vigilance Association. Human memory is very short. This Association was founded many years ago. One of the founder-Members is Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi and also Sir Mohammed Usman who are here. She and many others have built up this Association against public criticism and financial difficulty, and gave succour and help to many girls. More and more girls came into our protection, and, therefore, we started enlarging our Home in many directions. The 50 per cent contribution got from the Government was not enough for our

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work, and we requested our Government to provincialize this Home. The Government did do so in 1948, and said that they would take our experienced social workers as their advisory panel. But what did they do? Overnight they provincialized the Home, and they had nothing to do with our experienced social workers. We went on a deputation to the Hon. the Minister for Law who promised to take our assistance. But nothing happened. Now that the rules of the Government Vigilance Home are hard and fast, the Vigilance Association are also carrying on their work. Yesterday, the hon. Member Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi spoke about girls going astray, and she referred to the hard and fast rules of the Government Vigilance Home. Girls come into the City by trains. Many girls come into the City after running away from their unhappy homes. Still more girls are coming into the City because they are married to old, crochety and undesirable husbands who ill-treat them. Girls do run away to cities for proper protection and attention. They go to the bus stops and railway stations. There are people ready for them at railway stations and bus stops to offer dangerous employment. Our Vigilance Association workers patrol the railway stations, we are taking away the girls to our shelter, and we are unable to send them to the Government Vigilance Home, because of the hard and fast rules. We cannot keep out a girl at night. We turn to the Salvation Army, a missionary association, to take care of these girls at very little cost. We send the girls there. The Police also girls to that organization. We have hardly enough funds. We have asked the Government to take the services of trained workers like us, and help us to open more homes and shelters. I have been repeating this request often. There are girls from all States in our Home. They are also our own daughters. Are we not to give them protection?

“When the Madras Association was started, Srimathi V. T. Lakshmi was working as the Superintendent, Manager, Matron and Patrol. She did excellent patrolling. Now there is no patrol. I do not understand why, when women in India occupy the highest places in our own home country and also abroad, it is not possible for them to be patrols?

11-40 a.m. “Turning to the question of Women Police, I want to ask, ‘Why should we not have Women Police?’ It will not involve any additional expenditure. In all seriousness, I want to submit to the Hon. the Chief Minister that, if in recruiting personnel for the Police Department, in the place of men police, at least a dozen women, older women, mature women and educated women, are recruited, they can be of very great assistance in escorting children to the Juvenile Courts, in escorting girls to the various rescue homes and jails, in entering houses of ill-fame and detecting cases. Women Police have done this kind of work very well in other parts of the country. Why should they not do it in this enlightened State of Madras which has introduced many welfare activities? Certainly, if they are given an opportunity, they will turn out very good work. We are not really happy about certain

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things and women do need special care. I would, therefore, urge on the Government to consider this proposal which I have submitted, many, many times and do the needful. I do not believe in deputations if it can be helped.

“ Our Ministers are very busy with their work and in issuing Press statements. But sometimes it becomes necessary and we do hope that we will not be put to the necessity of resorting to that method. I only request the Government to give fair consideration to this very important request of mine.

“ Now turning away from justified feelings of frustration, on behalf of the Madras Women's Food Council, I offer to the Government our very grateful thanks for the great assistance and encouragement that they have given to that Council by giving it land-site and buildings. Above all, Mr. Chairman, I can tell you that the Honorary Propagandist of the Madras Women's Food Council, Mrs. Philip, who is attached to the Women's Christian College (Nutrition Department), has done a very fine piece of work. The Hon. the Chief Minister has himself paid tributes to the work done by her. We told him about the excellent work we had been doing here during the last three or four years. Visits from village to village, from hamlet to hamlet and from school to school, doing propaganda work and eating and sharing the food with others, have borne excellent results. The Hon. the Chief Minister said that if Mrs. Philips would go out at the height of the hot weather during the months of May and June to the famine areas of the southern districts, travel in third class and from village to village and do propaganda work, then he would feel that we had done something. Sir, we are really proud to say that we have been able to do it. Previously ration shops were not selling or were selling very little wheat. They were also not stocking wheat. But, as a result of our propaganda for wheat, they now stock wheat continuously and sell it. Therefore, I can say very good results have been achieved by our propaganda. We are grateful to the Government for recognising our work. We hope that they will help us to start a department for training propagandists for such work so that we may train more women to do this work under the leadership of Mrs. Philips. Sir, the Food Council was subjected to much criticism by hotel-keepers that we were given all sorts of privileges. We were not at all given any privilege except that we have a house free of rent. Otherwise, we pay the licence fees, sales tax, etc., and we also pay our staff very well. Above all, we give wholesome food to the men and women in the street. Even some of the legislators who criticised us in the past now come to me when the legislative sessions are on and say, ‘ May I have an opportunity to speak with you? Would you please come and start a cafetaria in our district? ’ So, we feel that we have done and will continue to do this good job. We again thank the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Hon. the Food Minister for their encouragement and help.

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"Day before yesterday I was in the City of Secunderabad. Early in the morning of that day, I stood in a horse-shoe surrounded by 8,000 young boys and girls, scouts and guides, from all over India in a Jambooree. In this field, there is neither any linguistic consideration nor any distinction of caste and creed. Boys and girls of various areas meet together in healthy surroundings, in the open air, learn together, work together and make the best home for social service. The Government of Madras (our State Chief being one of the Ministers, namely, the Hon. Sri Venkataswami Naidu) have been kind to us. But the grant that is given to us is adequate only to carry on our existing work. We have to run some courses in scouting and guiding for children in the slums. We, therefore, request the Government to come to our assistance with a further grant and thereby enable us to take in more children to be trained. In 1948 the Government of Madras appointed a Camp Site Committee and asked us to prepare a plan. The Committee made its recommendations which were very modest. Yet, I think the Committee's report is being eaten by insects in some old file of the Secretariat. Last year I asked the Hon. the Minister for Education to call for that file, pass orders and enable us to have camp sites so that we might take more children into the camps. I make the request now also because we have to take care of many children who are now in slums also. Therefore, the Government will do well to increase their assistance to us.

"Turning to the Madras School of Social Work, roughly there are four noble professions, in my humble opinion, that call for support. They are the professions of doctors, nurses, school teachers and social workers. We started the Madras School of Social Work against many and heavy odds. The Government themselves appointed a committee for this purpose in 1948. With many promises and frustrations, it fell through, but a volunteer organization started the school. We have also proved our worth. Our students are young men and women with a mission of service. The Hon. Sri Rajagopalachari has kindly appointed a Commission but we do not have the benefit of its findings. I know that this Budget is only for the current six-month period, but I want to drive home my point so that the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education will bear this question in mind and, having seen the fine social work we have been doing and the result of it, will increase the grant given to us. Our example has led to further social service courses being started in different colleges in the State. But we are running a full-time two-year course. We are now getting a token grant of Rs. 1,000 from the State Government and another Rs. 1,000 from the Centre. But I hope, Sir, that the Government will give us something more worthwhile to build up our library which is very essential. I hope and pray that they will give us substantial grants so that we may have more Faculties. We have four full-time Faculties drawn from the various Schools of Social Work, the most distinguished one being the Tata School of Social Science,

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But we need to strengthen our Faculties. Our students are trained in rural welfare work, medical social work, industrial welfare, probation work and correctional administration. Already requests have been pouring in for our trained social workers. In these circumstances, I hope and pray that the Government will be pleased to give early recognition to our degree and grant us financial assistance. We have as our worthy Chairman, Dewan Bahadur Bhashyam Ayyangar, a man of experience and I am sure the Government will grant our request.

“ Sir, I congratulate the Hon. the Minister for Transport on the informal, democratic way in which he attempts to tackle the various issues and criticisms offered. There has been vast improvement in respect of the amenities to the travelling public. Democracy is, I am sure, the highlight of our Ministers and I congratulate the Hon. Minister on the way he is tackling the transport problem.

“ Then, Sir, turning to the question of tourist traffic, I say there is a wealth of money coming into our State on account of this. Why should the Government be so obstinate in regard to the question of having a good Tourist Traffic Bureau? There are our temples, forts and other historical works which attract foreign visitors. But the amenities provided to them are very inadequate. Of course, the Government of Madras appointed a Committee. I think one of the Ministers, Sri Bhaktavatsalam, is on the Committee. He is a gentleman of vision. Therefore, I was hoping that the Committee would soon meet and evolve certain principles which might be of benefit to tourist traffic. But the Committee has not met. I hope it will not be long before the Government take up this matter.

“ Then I turn to the blot on the City of Madras, namely, the problem of beggars. There is no part of this country that is so ridden with this menace as the State of Madras. Wherever I go, outside our State the Superintendent of every jail says, ‘ Oh, they are prisoners from your land who have been punished for begging.’ I would request, Sir, that we should get our children back. These children go to the big cities from rural areas because of famine. Mr. Chairman, you know the danger these children are in. They are exploited by unscrupulous people. It is very difficult to travel safely on any railway in any part of India, especially in our State. These children move on the footboards pushing their heads in and trying to pull out what they can. They come through the windows of lavatories and they are the cause for a great deal of harm, both physical and mental. It is really a menace. Hon. Ministers may not know about this because there is a certain amount of security when they travel and they are not disturbed during their journey. But the ordinary travelling public have a very bad time with them. This is a very unhealthy practice. These children enter into the trains and steal some clothing or anything they may lay their hands on. I have been a victim of all these things and I know a large number of women who have

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been coming to our State have also been such victims. The other night I was travelling to Bangalore. Two women from Malaya were also in the compartment. They were counting the beads of the rosary all night because they said, 'We are told that thieves abound on these lines.' I really feel that this menace should be put down.

11-50 a.m. "The other day I was travelling from Madras to Madurai. There was a little Indian child with his parents who belong to Malaya in that compartment. Even in the night train we had beggars as long as we had the lights on in our compartment, and the little child turned up to its mother and said, 'Mummy, in Malaya we have no beggars, but ever since we have come from the ship, there are beggars and beggars. Why are they begging? Please tell me.' We must do something for these beggars. At present there is no place to which we can send them. Certified schools are already overcrowded. They do not have a fixed abode. That being so, it is not possible to put them on probation. We therefore started the Mohite Playground on a piece of land kindly given to us by the Defence Services. It is situated in a central part of the city and with the co-operation of the Corporation authorities, necessary sanitary arrangements have been made and with the help of the various Welfare Associations we have also equipped the playground to some extent. The boys who repeatedly appeared before the Juvenile Court were picked up by the police on the first day and brought to the pavilion. They were given a bath and a square meal. From that day they never came back to the Juvenile Court. The Corporation is running a school in that area. These boys in their turn brought other children also to the playground. But we are unable to take all of them at present. Though the rehabilitation of these boys is a happy job, it can be done only if the Government come forward to give us lands and other help. I would very much like to take this opportunity to appeal to the Hon. Chief Minister, through you Mr. Chairman, to give us some assistance in this matter. I assure him that we are prepared to take in a number of children and carry on such activities at one-fifth of the cost which will be incurred by the Government, and produce results. The rehabilitation of such child beggars is an important work and we will be happy to undertake such work provided the Government also do their duty by giving us necessary help and assistance.

"Sir, one of the hon. Members referred to the survey made by the students of the Madras School of Social Work. That was a surprise survey made on a Sunday without any warning. It revealed that there were 1888 juvenile beggars. Of these, 1146 were under the age of 12. The balance, namely, 742 belonged to the age group, 12 to 20. We can do something for these people through the social welfare organizations that we now have. I hope the Government will give us the necessary lands and other assistance so that we may be enabled to come to the rescue of these unfortunate children in this State of ours.

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“ May I say a word about Remand Homes? Our Remand Homes need a great deal of reorientation. They are at present inadequately equipped and staffed. The children that come into these Homes stay for a few days. In some cases, they stay for a few weeks. Some of them come from the villages and it takes a long time to contact their families. Some others are kept in the Remand Home as their cases are connected with adult cases. These people have nothing to do. They simply eat and keep quiet. They may be given some training in some useful trade. It is my view that our Remand Homes should become ‘ after-care institutions ’. This is an import matter. I request the Madras Government to appoint a Committee of all those connected with this work with the concerned Ministers also to change the whole programme. The Government must have a more practical approach. I would request the Government to approach more private institutions so that they may receive certified children. In our State the number of certified schools is limited. Destitute and delinquent children should not be mixed up together. At present, there are eight private institutions in the Madras State receiving children. In the State of Bombay, there are 88 such institutions which not only take these children into their institutions but also rehabilitate them in useful avocations.

“ Sir, I have already taken a considerable time of the House. Before I resume my seat, I have to refer to one or two very important matters. One of them is about the hospitals. The other day our Governor rightly commended that the hospitals in the Madras City are the best in the country. (The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari: ‘ In the whole world. ’) Yes, Sir, our hospitals are the best in the whole of the East. I would like to take this opportunity to plead that more facilities should be given to the out-patients of these hospitals. At present, the poor ignorant people do not know where to go and they have to depend on various small menials. Because, there are only a few trained social workers who must work as a link between the Doctor and the patients and also the families of the patients the help given is limited. The services of such social workers are not available now in our hospitals. I would request the Government to take more interest in the matter and employ full-time social workers to assist the patients in the out-patient departments in our hospitals. I am not saying this to get employment for the social workers who will be turned out of our institution shortly. I am saying this purely from a humanitarian angle. I hope the Government will look into the matter and do the needful.

“ While I am on the subject of hospitals I must refer to the T.B. ex-patients Colony which was founded by Lady Nye in 1948. This colony was in difficulties, and has had many vicissitudes. When this colony was started, the Government agreed to take over the Printing Press and treat it as branch of the Government Press. There was much correspondence in the matter and this Press has not yet been taken over by the Government. The Hon. Minister

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for Health has also visited this colony. The patients who are working in the Press need financial rehabilitation. They must receive some remuneration for the work that they do in the Press. I request the Government to carefully consider this aspect of the matter and make this Press a branch of the Government Press and thus help those people who are in need of help. I hope they will take early action in the matter. With these few words, I offer my congratulations to the Government and plead that top priority be given to the child beggars of this State and their rehabilitation. Thank you, Sir."

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. Chairman, even at the beginning of this session I stated that there is no purpose in dealing with the particular budget that was presented to us, because all the stages of the budget had been passed in the other House and whatever remarks we may make on the floor of this House just now would be more in the nature of suggestions for consideration by the Government in presenting their next budget. Sir, I regret to note the shape of the budget that has been presented to us. I have carefully gone through the budget of previous years and am convinced that more and more the tendency has been to make available to the House as little information as possible. I have here with me the budget of 1949-50 which I request the Hon. Finance Minister to look into. It gives details under every item as to the number of officers, the pay that they draw and other relevant information including dearness allowance and other things which will enable any Legislature to find out whether the expenditure is being incurred on proper lines or not. The duty of the Legislature is not merely to give approval to the budget as presented by the Government in the final shape but to give a correct view and appreciation on the manner in which the expenditure is being incurred. From that point of view, I very much regret to say that the tendency in recent years has been to give in the budget as little information as possible. Is it any wonder then that the comments of the hon. Members are also based on incorrect information, sometimes on information which is wholly lacking. When one of the hon. Members said that a Retrenchment Committee should be appointed, I wondered on what basis he made that suggestion. There is no use of thinking of the percentage in regard to expenditure, such as 35 per cent or so for social service and so on. We want to know how the money has been spent, who are the persons that are engaged on this work and what is the amount that is credited under the various items of social service. I do not want to elaborate on this point. I wish to seriously suggest to the Government that they must revise their policy while presenting the budget. They must give detailed information in the budget. While we have been insisting on even the foreign Government, when they were here, to give detailed information in the budget, it is even more necessary that we must ask for detailed information in the budget presented to us by a democratic Government. The budget that has been presented to us gives only the total amount. There

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is no clarification and no splitting up of figures to cover all items of expenditure. If I want to refer to any item relating to the Health Department or the Education Department, I can only look up and see the total amount under a major head. I submit this is not the correct way of presenting a budget.

“ My criticism, therefore, is not against the Budget but against the potentialities of presenting such a Budget in future. I, therefore, wish to enter my serious caveat against the manner in which the Budget is being presented. How the Members of the Legislative Assembly were in a position to discuss the Budget and vote the Demands and offer criticisms is something which I cannot say. But we are not here to look to the Members of the Legislative Assembly to know what to do, for they might have other methods of getting information. I wish to suggest to the Government that they must look to the Legislature as the first and the most important forum, whether it be for discussion of policies or whether it be for enunciation of principles. Sir, within the last few months, we have been waiting patiently for the Legislature to be summoned. The events of the last few months and the reports and speeches and statements and counter statements that have been made have caused us much anxiety. In a democratic form of Government, the best forum for ventilating grievances and for the Government replying to those grievances is the Legislature because it commands the widest attention. While I do feel that there were perhaps inherent difficulties in summoning the Legislature earlier than six months after it had last adjourned, the Government must consider it as a very useful machinery for them to express their views and to see what can be done. I wish many of the statements and counter-statements and speeches I referred to earlier had been reserved. ‘The moving finger writes and having writ, moves on’. I wish we do it. I do wish that we do not give vent to many of our sentiments except where certain definite objective are realized. There are people who will take advantage of any statement made particularly by a Minister and twist it in such a manner that he will not be in a position to reply to it further.

“ Sir, in considering the Budget, two points of view should be emphasised. One is how far the Budget is calculated to promote the welfare of the common man, creating in the public a feeling of satisfied security and a zest for increasing and promoting the best interests of the country. The next point that I wish to emphasise is in a democratic form of Government we must see how far the true ideals of democracy are sought to be promoted by the Budget presented to the Legislature. It has been well said that ‘eternal vigilance’ is the price of modern democracy, for, modern democracy, dominated to such an extent by party Government, always tends to degenerate to authoritarian rule by a majority. It has been said that modern democracy differs very little from a totalitarian regime in many countries because modern democracy is nothing but authoritarian or totalitarian rule by a majority. This concept is undoubtedly quite irrelevant and

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obnoxious and is opposed to the true instincts of democracy. I would say that whatever be the party in power, the first duty of the Government should be to see that the real principles of democracy are imbibed by them. It is not sufficient for the Treasury Bench to feel that they have a very good scheme and that it should be accepted by all. It is important that they must convoke all those who have no prejudice or antipathy for the scheme to see that a proper scheme is promoted, and not allow themselves to be tempted to make all kinds of observations about it. I say this because reference has been made in the Press and also on the floor of the House to various reforms that are contemplated by the Government. One of the most important is the reference to the working of local self-Government. Another is to the proposal to abolish or reconstitute the Board of Revenue. A third is to the proposal to appoint Commissioners in various directions. I feel that other proposals also may emanate. What I wish to suggest to the Government is, whenever such proposals are taken up they should be taken up with due deference to public opinion expressed in these matters. Sir, I ventured once before to suggest that there must be advisory committees in all Departments of the Government, consisting not only of the Members of the Legislature but people who may be called elder statesmen or people who may be called persons with a great deal of knowledge and experience. The great danger of democracy, I believe, is for the democratic legislature and the democratic administration to rush through changes without a full consideration of all aspects of the question examined. Nothing will be lost and everything will be gained if the Government take the views of people most competent—in the opinion of the Government—though not accept their advice before formulating a scheme. I do not suggest that the Government should abide by their advice. But if they consider that advice and base their policies on that, then there will be better appreciation of what they intend to do. After all, take this very local self-Government business. How often has it been made a plaything of party politics? A previous party Government abolished the taluk boards. Now we are thinking of abolishing the district boards. Sir, if people take an uncharitable view that these changes are made with a view to some sort of advantage being gained by the party in power, I feel that the Government themselves are responsible for such an impression. There was a big Bill called the Panchayat Bill passed by the last Council. I have not seen another Bill which was so incongruous with the actual realities of the situation in this country. Have we got the men to run these panchayats? We talk of panchayat raj. Have we got men? Have we men to fill the few highest positions in the country? I do not say this about our own State alone. That is the case with all other States. When we have not got men even at the highest levels of Governmental responsibility are you going to tell me that this wonderful slogan of panchayat raj is going to benefit us? Let us therefore carefully consider all aspects of the question. (The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari: 'Was it

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by the previous Legislature?') The previous Council passed it. These Bills are passed because there is a solid phalanx in front of me. I raised my voice as did many others on that occasion but my voice was a voice in the wilderness."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" We have very good men in the panchayats."

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, we have men who can be cajoled and controlled by persons like my hon. Friend. (Laughter.) My point is not that there are not enough men but that we have no men who can stand four square against such things. I do not deny that there are good men but our chief trouble and our misfortune have been that they have fallen a prey to slogans and other cries.

" Then, Sir, I would request the Government to take another point into consideration. Democracy always means cabinet responsibility and cabinet responsibility means that those who form the Government share in that responsibility. There have been many speeches made by the Ministers within the last few months and when I refer to them, let me make it quite clear that I am not here to offer any cheap criticism. I do not want to take any advantage of the statements made by the Ministers from that point of view. But I do not feel that it would be a sound convention, when a cabinet policy is to be discussed or when a cabinet policy has been adopted, if Ministers speak about them only when there is necessity for it in order to bring light not only to their constituencies but to the public at large. I do also feel that in all other respects, Ministers must confine themselves to the particular department's activities with which they are concerned. If Ministers speak about other departments, they will not be in a position to get full information and later on difficulties may arise.

" Sir, yesterday reference was made to the speech of the Hon. the Minister for Education at Udipi. I entirely accept his statement that there was no reference to the University. We have got on well, fairly well, for many years with the Government, and it is my hope and wish and prayer that we shall continue to get on well. It takes two to quarrel and I am too old to quarrel (laughter) with the Education Minister."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" He is too young to quarrel." (Laughter.)

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, 12-10
youth can never be trusted in these matters. (Renewed laughter.) p.m.
Let me put it to him and let it not be considered as criticism. He was performing a particular function in regard to the laying of the foundation-stone of the Medical College at Udipi. It may be a very good thing and a very desirable thing indeed. But he was not in possession of all the facts and he was not in a position to give the consideration that is due before taking up a stated

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position. Let me explain. Let it not be taken that I am antagonistic to this. This Medical College has been started recently on the basis that the College will be run by the collection of donations. Every student was asked to pay a donation of Rs. 3,000 to the College and donations are collected right up to 1962 in anticipation of admissions. Not only are these donations collected but each student has to pay about Rs. 4,500 as college fees for the 4½ years. I do not object to the collection of this college fees. But is it the attitude of the Government that they should encourage such donations being collected in advance from the students? The acceptance of this position probably and necessarily implies certain connotations. The question was discussed at a recent meeting of the Inter-University Board and it was the unanimous opinion of the Vice-Chancellors that collection of such donations is not calculated to promote the best interests of higher education.

“Let me come to another point. This College is situated in the State of Madras. I am exceedingly happy that the Government should give all assistance possible to the College. But there is one principle which the Government should not forget. The College is affiliated to the Karnatak University, a University that is outside the territorial jurisdiction of this State. You may ask: ‘What does it matter if it is outside the territorial jurisdiction of this State?’ The late Dr. Ziauddin Ahamed, brought in an Act to enable the Aligarh University to affiliate educational institutions in different parts of India. When this was circulated a storm of protest was raised and on very good grounds. I was one of those who vehemently protested against it. The matter is not so simple. If you think that you are endorsing a policy of that nature, the whole root, the whole basis of higher education may be very soon spoiled because, a college may prefer, if one University imposes certain conditions, to go to another University and there will be chaos in our educational system. That is why there has been an understanding that each University area must be more or less confined to the particular territorial limits.

“I will give another reason why I feel unhappy over this matter. Here are students admitted to that College. You know, Sir, and the hon. Members of this House connected with medical education also know that if students are admitted to a Medical College they can be admitted only if there is a reasonable chance of their studies being continued with at least a minimum amount of efficiency throughout the period. When an Hon. Minister of this Government performs such a function, the impression created on the public and the student population is that all these conditions are satisfied. Let me not be misunderstood in this connexion. I am very glad that improvements are taking place in the Mangalore Hospital. But there are also other points to be considered. I was recently Chairman of a Committee organized by the International Conference on Undergraduate Medical Education which considered this aspect of the question.

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The unanimous opinion of the international body was that the College and the hospitals should be located in the same campus to afford facilities for proper clinical instruction. I am not here to discuss these things. It is not my responsibility. Another University will share that responsibility. I am very glad to be relieved of it. But what I want to say is this. All these considerations may not be known to our Hon. Minister for Education. I do not think these things could ever have occurred to him because he was not in touch with the medical portfolio. (Interruption.) I do not want to go into domestic questions. I would rather avoid them. I would only say that this is a matter for serious consideration of the Government. I do not for a moment suggest that they should not help the College. But I say, they should not commit themselves in the manner that will make the public probably feel that there is something absolutely safe about this College for the students.

“ Now, let me come to another aspect of the question. I am not going to deal with the controversies in regard to elementary education. They will be dealt with elsewhere. I think we have been given too much of importance to it. My own feeling after some consideration of the matter is that, if a thing is worthwhile you can continue it, if not, it can be dropped. I wish to enunciate in this connexion a policy with regard to education. The main principle that I wish to enunciate in matters pertaining to education is that it should not be made a party question, that it should never be treated as the responsibility to the Government of the day whatever may be the education, whether it is primary education, secondary education, university education, technical education or technological education. It must be admitted that education is something for futurity and therefore no party consideration must be allowed to come in, in regard to educational plans. Let me here give the example of the 1944 Education Act passed by Parliament through the exertion of Mr. Butler. That Act was based very largely on the reports of two expert committees. I would suggest that in all matters pertaining to education at all stages, it is most desirable that the recommendations of the expert committee should be taken note of and generally implemented to the extent to which it is financially possible by the Government of the day. Otherwise education may become the plaything of party politics and we know how education has suffered in totalitarian States or perhaps some hon. Friends might say how education has progressed in totalitarian States.

“ I see, Sir, a non-official resolution has been given notice of by my hon. Friend Sri Parameswaran about secondary education. I therefore do not want to say anything about it now.

“ Now I come to a subject which has been discussed by almost everybody—Prohibition. I first wanted to prohibit myself from speaking on the subject but I felt it was a duty I owe to the House that I should speak on it. I congratulate the Ministry on

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having handed over the whole responsibility as it were of effectively implementing the policy of Prohibition, to a lady Member. My esteemed Friend the Hon. Member Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi will draw a conclusion that after all when men fail, they have necessarily to go to women for relief. Sir, the Hon. Lady Minister has taken a very heavy responsibility on herself, more heavy perhaps than she realizes at present. Has prohibition failed? I venture to say that it has failed in some material respects. I know the advantages that it has showered. I know people have been weaned from this habit. I also know that many of them, drink not being made available for them, are in a position to give better help and better assistance to their families. But one great danger in Prohibition has been the increase in lawlessness."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Prohibition lawlessness?"

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Prohibition lawlessness and other forms of lawlessness. This is a fact. The other day, a lady, who was an old nurse came to me and said because I was a Member of the Council: 'Come along with me, I will take you and show you how illicit distillation is going on'. That is the great danger. Not only is this illicit drink produced but we know from experience in other countries, the bootleggers always cling to these illicit distillers because that is the only method of making easy money.

"There is another aspect of the question which has got to be realized. Perhaps the medical profession will be in a position to advise in this matter. This sort of illicit drink has certainly produced a great deleterious effect on the constitution of those addicted to it. I know it. I know people who have been ruined by this kind of addiction. You may ask me: 'What then has to be done? Shall we make the laws more stringent?' Let me tell you, Sir, that no more draconian legislation has been passed in any legislature than the one pertaining to Prohibition. I protested against this. A prohibition officer, real or feigned, can enter any house at any part of the day or night, arrest the individual who is supposed to be drunk, take him away leaving his wife and children unprotected. He can even break open the door, if the house is locked. I protested against it because in their anxiety to enforce prohibition they were allowing a worse state of affairs to prevail.

"Sir, only the other day two ladies in Aminjikarai were nearly assaulted and their jewels were stolen because of a so-called prohibition raid of their house. I venture to suggest now also, as I did five years ago, that the real danger—more than even the drink habit—is the increase in the quantum of drink from day to day, so much so the person who takes it is running down in health. In these days of ration, why don't you ration drinks instead of issuing permits? Let each person have a ration card with the photograph of himself pasted on it. Let the quantum of drink that is to be

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given to him be noted. Let him go to the bazaar himself—be he the highest in the land or the lowest in the land—and get the drink. By that means the Government would be enabled to see that more people do not get into this habit. Secondly, there is the possibility of stopping, to a very large extent, illicit distillation. There is a proverb, 'Set a thief to catch a thief' and if the Government have certain of these liquor shops open and openly open, they will be the first informants if any illicit distillation were to take place. The Hon. Lady Minister in charge of Prohibition said the other day in reply to a question that in the year 1952-53 there were 118,000 prohibition cases. She did not say, how many were cases of illicit distillation and how many were cases of people smelling sweet toddy or otherwise. But I should like to say that illicit distillation is in the ascendant and it is a grave thing if the Government let it grow for it will certainly degenerate into lawlessness in course of time. Those who are making such capital money out of this illicit distillation will be the thugs of the future if they are not controlled. I am sorry I cannot give any solution for that but I certainly sound a note of warning in regard to this matter."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—"Is it the suggestion of the hon. Member that only rich people take to illicit distillation?"

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, people get rich after financing it. I do not think, rich people finance it. My time is running short, and time and tide wait for no man or for that matter any woman. We are most anxious to hear the Hon. Leader of the House. Let me, therefore, rapidly proceed with my further observations.

"Reference has been made to co-operative societies. It is a fact openly known that many of the co-operative societies in this State—I cannot say about other States—are not functioning properly. I would not say that the co-operative system has broken down but I do say that what we expected of the co-operative system, has not been achieved. I am most anxious that co-operation should spread on right lines and that it should permeate every field of national activity. I have seen the working of the co-operative societies in Denmark and it is no use mentioning it here. We have not got sufficient number of men in these co-operative societies to uphold the traditions and dignity of the co-operative movement. I feel that the time has come when a committee should be appointed to review the working of the co-operative societies and to see in what direction and in what manner expansion of the co-operative enterprise can be fostered. Sir, the co-operative credit banks are an anomaly. Their methods of issuing loans are so fastidious and so completely at variance with the necessities of the poor people, that they have hardly any chance of getting these loans. The gentlemen who get loans are the directors of the co-operative societies themselves. On account of these usurious loans, those who give these loans have multiplied within the last seven or eight years and a number of banks have been established in our State. These banks give loans at a rate of interest varying from

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three to four per cent. Some people take them on 'hundis' and then pass them on to the poor people, low-paid clerks, peons, middle classes and poorer middle classes at a rate of interest ranging from 12 to 36 per cent. They also give it to agriculturists. Although there is a maximum limit fixed to the rate of interest payable by the agriculturists, that is observed more in the breach than in observance. I suggest that there should be a very strict method of controlling the activities of such persons. Every person, who is a money-lender, should be registered, and the maximum rate of interest for protected and unprotected loans should be fixed. Just as the Government have got all land-owners under their grip, they must also keep these persons under their control by registration. I think it is a necessary thing.

"Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister has referred to the fact that 'much hard and sustained work will have to precede an appreciable increase in the general standard of living'. No clearer exposition of what is wanted could have been given. For various reasons, labour has not been able to co-operate in the industrial concerns and complaints have been far too frequent that a 'go-slow policy' has been adopted. On a previous occasion, I pleaded that there should be some amount of partnership between labour and capital in the promotion of industry; that all trade unions must be controlled by those who are actually engaged in that particular trade and not by outsiders who have little or no responsibility in this respect; and that while labour is given all reasonable amenities and facilities, labour itself will have to realize that in a world of severe international competition, it may not be wise to 'kill the goose that lays the golden egg', by demands that can hardly be met. I am sure, the statement recently made by the Hon. Mr. Jagjivan Rara, who has had considerable experience of these problems, and the appeals made by the hon. Mr. V. V. Giri will be taken seriously by all interested people.

"Sir, reference was made to nationalization of some industries. I accept the statement of the Hon. Minister for Motor Transport that the services rendered by the Government buses are excellent. He has given a statement that it is working at a profit. I should like to submit it to a further examination. Are these buses, diesel-engine buses, paying Rs. 400 as quarterly tax to the Government? Are they also paying the petrol tax that is due? How is depreciation effected? My purpose in putting these questions, is simple. I want the Government to have control but they should get the advice of good experts, industrialists and others, as the Government of India have done with regard to their nationalization schemes.

"Let me offer my congratulations on the final settlement of this tram issue. The 2,000 workers who are left without any employment can easily be absorbed in the many undertakings that the Government have on hand. For instance, they can be absorbed in the bus service. They can be trained to be good motor mechanics. I am very glad that the Hon. Finance Minister said that the tram services would not be reintroduced in the City. In most European

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countries, there is no tram service. In this connexion, I made a suggestion in the last Council also that the Hon. Ministers must be sent for a period of three or six months on a world tour and then continued in the Ministry. I hope the Hon. Chief Minister will not think that this is merely a melodramatic statement of mine and that I have no conception of the cost thereof. I think it would be an economical proposition and he can allow his colleagues to go abroad. The reason why the tram services have been removed was that they do incalculable damage to the roads and they produce a noise which is adversely affecting the health of the people. There are also other inconveniences which need not be mentioned. Now, there are less accidents on the roads and pedestrians and motorists have stated that the roads are far better now.

" Now, there is what is known as the trolley bus system. Using these very same overhead wires trolley buses could be run at much cheaper rates and I commend this to the Hon. the Minister for Transport. Trolley buses are run everywhere in Geneva, in Paris and in London and they are a great comfort that the Government could give to the people. On a fare which is not in excess of what the tramways charged, the trolley buses could be run efficiently, because there is no petrol or anything like that but electricity is used. 12-30 p.m.

" Sir, I wish to refer to one important event that is taking place. Hon. Members would have read about the ' Bhoodan ' movement. Great persons have come and asked for this Bhoodan. The spirit of charity is inherent in the Indian nation and I am glad that gifts have been given. Whether that charity is all that has been mentioned in the Press is another matter. But, I want to utter a note of warning. Lands is after all the greatest possession of man in all countries, and in all ages land has been one of the most important causes for wars or disputes and for everything connected with them. I have no authority to speak about other States but, I wish that at any rate our Government and the Hon. the Minister for Revenue in particular do consider what are the consequences of this Bhoodan movement. Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that every other party is also exploiting it? Is he aware of the fact that there are people who are exploiting these very gifts and are utilising them to get from the innocent villager something which they can use in a different way for their own purposes? Are the Government aware of the fact that there will be almost a parallel Government established in regard to these agrarian reforms? The dangers are there and let us not ostrich-like shut our eyes to them. Let me make this appeal to the Government that they must take note of this and see what can be done.

" Sir, I shall end by referring to one other aspect of the question. Democracy almost everywhere is at the cross-roads to-day. In the name of democracy, certain unhealthy trends are creeping in. We are, though a very ancient nation, comparatively new to the democratic method of Government and the democratic ideals have yet to spread. Our Constitution has, fortunately, in no unmistakable terms laid down that democracy is the form of Government

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that we shall be under. There are three safeguards in a democracy which can never be lost sight of. The first and most important is the judiciary. In a democracy where party Government is the rule and where by party Government we mean the majority rule, the safeguards through an impartial and independent judiciary can never be underestimated. Judgments may not always be accepted. It may be that individuals may hold their own views about judgments but I respectfully venture to state that the judiciary should never be subjected to open criticism by any member of Government, least of all by those who hold the Home portfolio whether it be in the State or in the Centre. It is a well-known aphorism that it is better that ten persons escape punishment rather than one person who is innocent is found guilty. I hope, Sir, that in all our public references to the judiciary we shall not say anything that will shake the confidence of the public in the judiciary or make the judiciary themselves ill at ease with their own efforts.

"The next safeguard is an independent audit which has fortunately been provided in the Constitution. It should be the endeavour of all never to sit on the safety valve for the material benefit to the public consists in a proper appraisal by an independent audit of the ways and means by which public money is being expended by the Government of the day.

"The third and equally important agency is the Public Service Commission. My friend, the ex-Chairman of the Public Service Commission referred to certain aspects of the work of the Public Service Commission *vis-a-vis* the Government of the day. I would like to repeat that the old practice of placing the Public Service Commission's report with the reply of the Government thereon before the Legislature for a full discussion is well worth being repeated. I am afraid that in this, as in many other States, there is a tendency—I will not say a growing tendency—on the part of the administration not to utilise the Public Service Commission as they ought to utilize it.

"Sir, reference was made to a recent Government Order which laid down that teachers standing for election to the Legislature should resign their posts if they are elected and that the Government will not be able to pay the necessary probable cost of their being retained. I think, Sir, this is fundamentally opposed to the provisions of the Constitution which has given to the teachers representation in the Legislatures of the land. I do hope that Government will leave it to the managements to see whether teachers so returned can function in the schools and whether they can be given the necessary permission for contesting the seats.

"Lastly, Mr. Chairman, we are discussing domestic politics here sometimes with heat, sometimes with anxiety but more often, I am afraid, without a full realisation of the implications of those discussions in the light of the global events that are taking place. The world is indeed in a very sad state of affairs. Everyday, we see that unfortunately there are trends and there are movements which give us great anxiety. If India is to be safe and should preserve its

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independence and continue to function as a democratic Government, it is very necessary that we should realise the need for unity, unity in essentials, diversity in non-essentials and above all charity in everything that we talk and do. I know within the last few months, there have been unfortunately currents and cross-currents in this part of the country. I do hope that it will still be possible for all to realise that in the larger interests of the country, we must come to a better appreciation of each others needs and wants and see that no hatred is provoked, no unnecessary heat is engendered and no mischievous propaganda is tolerated. It requires a great deal of imagination, of sympathy, of understanding and of clarity of vision. Yet, I feel that it should not be difficult for, after all, we who have lived for so many years in concord can certainly see to the promotion of a healthy spirit, that spirit which seeks to implement the formula, 'Each for all and all for each'. And, although sometimes the gathering clouds may perhaps appear to be too thickly overhanging, yet with the Sun of sympathy and understanding and mutual tolerance and forbearance, I hope that the clouds will clear and that once more we shall all be united in our endeavour for the furtherance of the great tasks that we have on hand, for the promotion of the true interests of all and for the building of a great nation for which so much of sacrifice had been made in the past by our leaders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—"The hon. Member, Dr. S. Muthulakshmi Reddi, will now speak."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Mr. Chairman, seeing that we are dispersing for lunch at 1-30 p.m. may I be permitted to intervene in the debate now as I will not be attending the House this afternoon?"

MR. CHAIRMAN :—"The Hon. the Chief Minister can do so and I shall call the hon. Lady Member later."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am intervening with your permission and without disturbing the programme that the Hon. the Finance Minister will reply to the debate because most of the observations made are rather general and are with reference to the administration than in regard to the budget itself. Proceeding from the end, I am very grateful for the very important observations that have been made by the Leader of the Opposition in the course of his speech. I entirely agree with him in regard to what he has said about the judiciary, the Public Service Commission and about the audit. I hope and believe honestly—hon. Members will lose no chance of pointing out any deflections on my part, if there be any—I am trying my utmost to see that the judiciary's position is maintained as enunciated in the highest quarters and that the Public Service Commission is also allowed to perform its functions fully and fairly. Of course, there is no question about any difficulty in regard to audit except that I feel, which everybody else must also feel, very often the accounts

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12.40 a.m. are too late for creating any living opportunity for Members to correct things. But, it cannot be helped in the management of big States.

" So far as the judiciary is concerned, I do not know what drew Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar to make that observation in particular. I do not think that any Member of the Government much less anybody else has made any public observations about judgments of the judiciary. Of course I do not believe that Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar will ask the Government that no appeal should be filed and that no revision petitions should be put in. That cannot be the case. I do not think that any one has erred in recent times in making any general observations. We cannot interfere with general observations made by the judiciary about the executive. That is a privilege and they are entitled to do that.

" So far as the Public Services Commission is concerned, I believe in the Public Services Commission operating in every matter except, of course, on matters where departments have to judge rather than the Public Services Commission. The Public Services Commission is the authority judging the equipment and preliminary qualifications and the like of aspirants to posts. In the matter of promotions and the like, of course, it is the departments that have to judge. I do not think that in any other country the Public Services Commission comes in in the matter of promotions. But where one jumps from one category to another there is an opportunity for the Public Services Commission to intervene and they have been doing it and I do not think that the Public Services Commission can have any complaint against the present Government, with regard to the way in which we have been dealing with them. I for one, and as long as I am responsible for the Government I shall see that my principle is not given up. I for one believe that the more the Government are relieved from the responsibility of assessment of qualifications and things like that—and this is thrown upon the Public Services Commission—the better it will be for all concerned. I do hope that the Public Services Commission of our State which has given so much satisfaction to every one will maintain the same quality in its work in the years to come. The quality of the Public Services Commission and its independence, I recognise, are very important for good administration. At the same time when power shifts to any particular quarter there is a movement to tinker with that particular quarter. There is a movement that communal representations and things like that should be introduced in the matter of the composition of the Public Services Commission and sometimes questions are asked whether backward classes or others should not be there. I think that the Public Services Commission should itself not become the playground for competition on any basis other than merit and qualification to function as a Public Services Commission. Therefore without going further into any debatable ground, I wish to assure the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition that this Government will not in any conscious manner deviate from the principles he has laid down in regard to the judiciary or the Public Services Commission or of course the audit.

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“ Then I shall go to other important matters that he has touched. Since it is convenient to begin from what was last said, I should like to say this about Prohibition. My Hon. Colleague the lady who has been congratulated very warmly by lady Members and somewhat left-handedly by gentlemen Members, I think, deserves a great deal of sympathy. I can assure hon. Members that I have done well in asking a woman Minister to be responsible for Prohibition because that section of the population which is most interested in abstinence is the female population. Since motive or urge from within is the most important element in the performance of anything, I believe we did well in appointing a competent woman to look after a thing in which women are so deeply interested. Here it is not a small section by way of a group or a party or a professional or occupational group. It is a sex group and therefore it is half and half. Half the population is so interested in the matter of total abstinence on the part of male members of the families that I think it is good that we entrust it to a lady Member. Similarly I think that education also should be entrusted to a lady Member, if possible, of course always assuming competence and capacity and general acceptance which are very necessary in a democratic set up in all matters. If I could only discover a woman Member to take charge of the Education portfolio, I would relieve the Hon. Minister for Finance of the Education portfolio without any difficulty whatsoever. But apart from that, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar is right when he says that prohibition work is very difficult and very hard. He wondered whether the burden would not be too heavy for the lady Member. I entirely share in that anxiety. But for my part it is a hopeful anxiety and it is an affectionate anxiety rather than an anxiety which leads to the negating of what is being done. I would not remove the portfolio from the lady Member on account of the weight of that burden. No doubt she has to deal with rowdies of all kinds and very bad characters. But after all she is not the administrative head of the department. She is only Minister for Prohibition. We should not confuse departmental work with the work of responsible Ministers. Policies are laid down by Ministers and they exercise a general overall supervision. A tough Inspector-General of Police is in charge of Prohibition so far as administration goes and it is the intention of Government to transfer the entire prohibition administration to the responsibility of the Police Department. Therefore there need be no fear on account of the character of the people she has to deal with. They will be dealt with quite properly. I dare say and I claim to make this statement that Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar does not know more about drink and all other things connected with drink than I do. I can claim that I know about the drink evil as much as anyone else can know. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar and I quite agree that it is a very difficult proposition to enforce anything of this kind. It is not as if we do not know it, when we launched on the policy of Prohibition. We knew it. But I claim that we have had lapses in certain matters and that is the reason why illicit distillation is on the increase. We have not done enough educative propaganda. At

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one time educative propaganda was not necessary. When Prohibition was introduced in this State there was so much of popular enthusiasm, there was so much of understanding about the evils of drink and the like and there was so little of greed on top of the urges that moved the people that propaganda then might have done more harm than good, because it was not very good positively to keep the drink idea before the people at that time. To-day we have reached a stage when I have no doubt in my mind that very strong, wide and effective propaganda on the basis of total abstinence is necessary, if we wish to enforce Prohibition properly. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar was very right when he said that the deleterious forms of drink that are illicitly manufactured are very bad. But what have the doctors done in that respect? Have they at least spoken out? Have they told the common and ignorant people that the illicit drinks that are supplied to them by the people who wish to make money by evading the law of Prohibition are very dangerous to health and are very bad? I wish the doctors had said it. It is no good a Member of the Government or a Policeman saying that illicit drinks are bad for health because those who are addicted will not believe them.

12-50 P.m. " They would say that it is interested propaganda on our part in order to cover up our deficiency in enforcement. But if doctors said, it would be believed and it would also impress. Even to-day I would ask Dr. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliyar and other colleagues of his in the profession to make it clear to the ignorant public in all the languages that they could understand or read that these drinks are very bad for health and that even though momentarily they might imagine that they get the advantages of an intoxicant, it will ultimately ruin their hearts, ruin their lungs, ruin their kidneys and poison their blood. I wish they do such a propaganda. It would be very good. I would be prepared to pay the cost of printing such propaganda material if only the doctors would come forward to carry on an intensive propaganda of that type. I would invite the attention of hon. Members and I would also invite the attention of Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar to the certificates which doctors have been giving for obtaining permits under the law. I must confess to him—I hope I am free to give an opinion about this though I cannot speak anything against the judiciary—I am amazed at the certificates that the doctors are giving. They are certifying as remedy what is really the cause of the disease itself. They write unabashedly that such and such a gentleman is suffering from so and so diseases, diseases that I know are all attributable to the drink that the applicant has been taking and they recommend continuing the drink on permit as a remedy for the disease. But I cannot question the correctness of professional opinion. I would be quite willing to give these certificates all bundled up to Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar for his opinion or for referring it to an expert body for their opinion. I think these certificates are very wrong. It is easy to prescribe alcohol because the man is addicted to it. But I say that that is just the reason why alcohol should not be prescribed. I accept the observation in this connexion that in these cases there should be rationing which would make these people take

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less and less everyday and help them to get out of the difficulty of addiction and make them come back to healthy food and healthy medication if necessary rather than to this poisonous medication which they are inclined to accept as more agreeable.

“ As for introducing rationing of liquor to the general public an important observation has been made by Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. There is much difference of opinion in regard to it. I do not think I shall deal with it now in this connexion. It has been tried in some places. That we know already. I think we have not had very good results in all those places, while it is also true that in some places we have had good results. If only we are convinced—we meaning not only the Ministers or the party in power but men who are interested in the subject—and if only experts are convinced that a system of rationing, not of foreign liquors beautifully bottled as in western countries, but of toddy and country arrack which are quite different from the drinks prevailing in Western countries, not only in regard to quality of the stuff itself but in regard to the way in which it is handled, is possible, I would very much like to have such a system. If only anybody could find out a way by which we could ration our country drinks, not wines and other foreign liquors which could be managed in a different way, and get people to come down so to say from their poisonous addiction less and less and if only we could prevent our juveniles completely, I would be immensely pleased. I would welcome it. But I am afraid that it is rather difficult if not impossible, and that is why we thought that on the background of our religion, of our tradition and of the social opprobrium that is associated with it in our country, on the background of our culture, at least in this matter we could stop the sale of intoxicating drinks by Government, in shops to which workman would be tempted to go and ruin himself and ruin his family. We decided therefore that the sale of toddy and arrack under Government agency should be prohibited.

“ Illicit drinks have come to stay. Every rule or law has its own evasion aspect also. Illicit drink has come to stay just as stealing has come to stay, just as robbery has come to stay and just as murder has come to stay. We cannot get out of them. They are all there. Of course, a sumptuary rule like this which deals with eating and drinking is more difficult of enforcement than other laws; but we shall try our best. It would be impossible to say more on that point at this stage.

“ Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has made an observation with regard to statements and public speeches on the part of Government members and I hope my colleagues will take his advice as given by a friend and an elder statesman. I agree with him in regard to all that he said. In fact he has said nothing which we have not been saying to one another. It is easy to say things but is very difficult to practise. Perhaps that is what has been referred to. The point is that sometimes the marginal position is difficult. As I said in an answer to a question put to me, sometimes it is

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necessary to elicit public opinion and it cannot be elicited by a letter in the newspapers or things like that. Sometimes it is elicited by hon. Members (or Ministers) mentioning it from a public platform when some opportunity arises and then we get the reactions and opinions of the public. Apart from this, there are several cases when one Minister has to help another. There is nothing particularly gained by departmentalising a thing too much. After all the Ministers have joint responsibility and everyone is responsible for all the departments though he is particularly entrusted with the functioning of one department. We cannot therefore make hard and fast rules. But on the whole I think I agree with Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar that an atmosphere should be created for less speaking and more doing. Not only in this respect but in every other matter, I would respect that advice. I hope that the public also would accept that advice so that they may not expect speeches and statements every day. The greatest trouble is that falsehoods are circulated. Wrong statements are made which require immediately to be corrected. There is a notion among our people that if anything is not contradicted, it is admitted. I think we should also create an atmosphere in which lies could be allowed to be uncontradicted and people should know that anything stated is not necessarily true if it is not contradicted. In fact I do hope that lies will so multiply that the people in general will get more used to them. They should be made to understand that it is possible that a lie could be printed. Unfortunately our people seem to imagine that the printing press somehow is a filter and that only true things come out from it. It is not true. We all know it is not true. We hope however that the disease will cure itself. It is better to allow lies to speak for themselves rather than our going out to contradict them. I think there is also a system of curing certain diseases by letting the poison to develop and be its own anti-poison. These lies, if we allow them to multiply to a disgusting degree will kill themselves.

" The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar said that education should not be made a party matter. I entirely agree with him. It is a wonder how both of us sitting on opposite sides agree with one another. But there is really no reason why two intelligent people should differ to whatever side they may belong. Reasoning faculties are more or less one common pattern in the human organism and therefore there is so much agreement. So far as education is concerned it should not be a party question and that is my earnest desire. But why education alone? Medicine should not be a party question? Public Works Department, our national works should not be made party questions. In fact wherever there is a party system of Government, after taking up office practically 90 per cent of all questions that have to be dealt with by the Government are not party questions. It is only a few questions that will have to be decided on a party basis because it might have been publicly announced by the party that these would be fulfilled if they came to power. Therefore education and other things should not be made a party question at all.

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"One word more about Prohibition, Sir. There is a directive in the Constitution. We should all remember that. There is a Directive Chapter immediately following the chapter on Fundamental Rights. These directives are binding upon Government, so long as the Constitution remains. The directive is that the policy of Prohibition should be implemented by State Governments. The fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution may be argued in Courts. The Directive Principles cannot be made into justiciable matters. Otherwise, the principles in the Directive Chapter are as important as any other principles laid down in the Constitution.

"Therefore, this Prohibition, the spread of education and a few other things that are mentioned in the chapter dealing with Directive Principles are all important and we should not forget them. According to the capacity and resources and other things to be taken into account, these directives should be given effect to. When we talk of giving up Prohibition we should keep that in mind. I admit that if a State is not able to find as much money as is necessary by adopting Prohibition it is open for the directive to be put in the shelves for some time. But, so far as we are concerned in this State we have introduced another tax and we have given up the drink monopoly and the drink trade which the Government were running. That is the meaning and object of Prohibition. Prohibition should not be confounded with abstinence. Abstinence is an ideal for which education, propaganda and all things should be done and we may differ as to the amount of abstinence that is to be enforced. But so far as the monopoly trade, which the Government were carrying on in drink and which furnished a revenue, is concerned, that revenue has been made up deliberately by another tax in our State. So when the question is raised as to giving up Prohibition, I think the directive is important and has to be kept in mind. 1 p.m.

Sir, I tender my respectful and grateful appreciation of hon. Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar's speech. He referred to several points but the spirit of it is what I am grateful for. It was constructive and was helpful, and I am grateful for the moderate tone in which he expressed his differences of opinion on several matters in which I know he feels very deeply and might have easily let himself go into a pretty warm style. So far as the points are concerned, he dealt with three matters. One is the limit placed on the remission of land revenue for drought, namely, that a pattadar who has, on the basis of assessment, lands paying an assessment of Rs. 100 per annum should not be entitled to remission unless he proves his particular difficulties in which case exceptions will be made. A general rule has now been introduced that a person of that status is not *ipso facto* entitled to remission as the smaller pattadars are entitled to. I do not think it is right to call it a wrong rule. It may be that some of these persons who pay more than Rs. 100 per annum are equally poor, are in difficulties, are in debts and so on; but it is open to them to apply to the Collectors and get the particular sanction necessary for relief in such cases. I do not think that that has worked any great hardship so far as the actual practice has gone. There is no doubt

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considerable difficulty for the farmers in getting credit and he suggested that Government should be more liberal in accommodating the farmers with loans. It is true, but there is, as he knows very well, a limit to the amount of money that we can raise in the open market, some of which we could divert as loans for these purposes. It is only this limitation that is holding us back. Otherwise we would be willing to give any amount of credit to farmers provided we are hopeful of getting them back from them. A method should be conceived and put into effect to improve the credit position. I have no doubt about it.

He also referred to the Modified Scheme of Elementary Education in the course of his speech. He stated that while it may be very good to think of the occupational bias and while it may be very good to prevent all elementary and other education being simply a preliminary process to go to the Public Service Commission at the end of it—while he admitted that it is all bad—he said that somehow or other feelings have been roused, caste feelings have been roused, communal feelings have been roused and that everybody is opposing and is making it impossible and therefore the scheme should be given up. In his desire for the continuance of the present Government, he has gone out so far as to say ‘Drop even a good thing if it cannot be carried out without rousing all this bad feeling’. He may be right, Sir. But much depends on the temperaments of individuals. He may be right when he says that when a thing is opposed so vigorously, it should be dropped. But, can any reform be made in this world unless we face opposition of that kind, especially from the vested interests? Here it is not a case of vested interests. It is a different interest. Can any reform hope to get a favourable atmosphere where there is no vigorous and stiff opposition? I think it is not possible. Also, is there any hope for the nation if we do not do the right thing in the matter of education and drop it because of opposition? Of course, there is an argument the other way about also, that is, ‘Wait, create a good atmosphere and then introduce the change’. That is an argument. But nothing can be done precisely in that way. Unfortunately Governments are not eternal and ideas are not by themselves alive. Somebody or other will have to bring an idea and get it through and we have to take risks some time or other. In a reform with regard to education, especially of a fundamental kind like this, you must expect opposition. That is what I mean. There is bound to be opposition. Unfortunately, although the Madras State is very good in many respects, it is bad in one respect. It is much better than other States in many respects. Everybody tells us that co-operation works very well in Madras and they come and study it here. Of course, quite a few cases of bad management are there, but, on the whole, we have achieved credit in this field in our Province. So also, in many respects, we are very good and our people are brainy. I claim that wherever I go. There is no question about it. But the one difficulty in our State is this. Unfortunately, there is too much of caste here, too much of caste feeling here. We cannot get rid of it. That is true. But that is the very difficulty which we must overcome. We cannot overcome

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it at any time if we run away from things because there is opposition arising out of this caste feeling. All of us must go all out to explain that this reform in education does not mean any harm to any particular caste, does not mean anything else but this, namely, that the universality of education that we desire cannot be accomplished within a reasonable time unless we do something like this; that it is not necessary to impound a young child all the six hours in a day; that it is quite enough if he is impounded for three hours a day with a teacher more or less qualified to do the function; that it is quite enough if we keep him imprisoned for $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 hours a day, that if from 5 to 8 in the morning he carries on it is quite enough. The other thing is 'Is there any harm in a child going about in the countryside when he is not in the school even if he may not do this, or may not do that, or may not succeed in becoming an artisan? Is there any harm in the child going about and seeing things, assisting his own parents, his own family?'. They are doing this whether we ask them or whether we do not ask them to do this. There are many families which do not send their children to school on account of such difficulties. They need their assistance either in their homes or in the field. Let us make it easy for all those children to go to school.

" School strength has increased in many places where we have tried. In Madurai, I am told, that 40 per cent extra admissions are shown. It may be that the increase is not so much as forty per cent; it may be that it cannot maintain this increased strength all through. But I can also prove, at any rate I fear, that the agitation started against the scheme has taken the shape of even asking the boys not to go to the schools. It is to these things Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar referred, 'In this atmosphere, why do you kill yourself at your age with this so-called reform of yours?' That is his advice. I submit that perhaps it is my fate that I must take up causes like this and persist in them. If it does not succeed, I hope it will not be lost. Some one will take it up later on, as we are taking up so many things that others have tried and given up.

1-10
p.m.

' Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi, one of the Members who are supposed to be behind me and back me up, made a very cheap comment. I am sorry he is not present in the House now. He said that there was neither 'education' nor any 'scheme', and so on. It used to be said about the Indian Civil Service Officers that they were neither Indian nor civil nor were they doing any service. He concocted a cheap imitation of that saying. We have before us the Report of the Parulekar Committee. The Chairman of that Committee is a very eminent educationist. He had been recommended to us by the Bombay Government as a very eminent educationist. He has no prejudices based on our caste system. He comes from another State. The Standing Committee on Basic and Elementary Education of the Central Advisory Board of Education has passed a resolution approving our modified scheme and recommends it to other States. The Central Advisory Board of Education, which will be meeting at about the end of January 1954, will

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also consider the matter. I think the Secondary Education Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has given its approval to the principle underlying the scheme. I am not ruining this country by this scheme; it may be that I am ruining myself. I do hope that it will not be put aside on grounds of difficulty only. Sri T. G. Krishnamurthi said that there was nothing in the scheme and that no change had been effected and asked why we called it a scheme. That is a comment which I treasure. I think a reform should be such that it does not hurt anybody, it should appear to be nothing and it should be simple. In fact, a simple thing is a greater achievement than a complicated thing. I am glad that he finds no change in it. That is just what I want. I would like people to think that way. All that I do is to allow the child a little more freedom. It is like letting a prisoner out on parole to go to see his father and mother. It will only improve his character when he comes back. He said that the Government do not propose to spend more money and so there was no scheme. There are some reforms which do not cost money, but which are very necessary and very important. For instance, if we do not speak lies or untruths, it does not cost anything in money, but it will be a great improvement. So also, if a child goes about and sees the wheel-wright or potter or weaver or farmer at work, it does not cost anything, but it is a very good thing for the child. So, there need not be any objection on the ground that there is no cost involved.

“ Sri G. Krishnamurthi representing the Madras South Teachers’ Constituency said that the Government had increased the work of the teacher by one hour and that therefore we should give him more salary. I admit that we should give him more salary irrespective of whether we have increased his work by one hour or not. He deserves more salary and the only thing that stands in our way is the limitation imposed by the public purse. If we compute the interval he gets and the irregularity in attendance, I do not think he will get actually one hour more. Yet I admit that from the trade union point of view, it is extra work and that something should be given for that. All our people have got into a trade union mentality. I hope that we will be able to overcome a narrow mentality in that direction. No doubt the teachers may get something extra. But we should not associate the scheme and the protest it has evoked with an offer of giving a higher salary. It will be misunderstood. I am sure that the gentlemen who attack the scheme and me without reason will find some good reason if I do this. Offering of money is not a good thing. The Parulekar Committee has recommended an increase. If some increase is to come, it will come in an ordinary and a healthy manner. That should not be made a matter for discussion when we are dealing with the principle itself.

“ I need not deal with the education scheme further because it will come up for discussion when we move the Demand for Grant for Education in the Assembly even if no other opportunity is

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available. Then it will be thoroughly discussed, everybody will say all that can possibly be said against it and we shall deal with it.

“ The speech of Dr. John, who started the debate is—I think he will forgive my saying this—rather unfortunate. It was a speech full of wrong information. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar rightly defended him by saying that because the Government had not given him all the information, he spoke in the manner he did. But Dr. John is Dr. John and even if we had given him all the information, I fear he would have spoken in the same manner. (Laughter.) I hope he will not mind my saying this.

“ References were made by the Members to the sales tax and the tax on buses. I hope the Hon. Finance Minister will deal with them when he replies. But I will speak from the general point of view. Member after Member of this House, not to speak of the other House, has been getting up and saying that we must not have this tax and that tax, that the bus tax is heavy, that the sales tax is heavy and ruining the trade and commerce and so on. But at the same time they wanted the present expenditure to be maintained. How is it possible? It is impossible. The budget must be balanced. We will have to repay what we borrow. We cannot be eternally borrowing from the Central Government. They will not lend for revenue purposes; they will lend only for capital expenditure. We cannot do without balancing the budget. We may fail to balance the budget for a year or two, but we cannot be going on like that always. Sales tax is necessary. It may be that the entire tax structure requires alteration. But that is a matter for the Taxation Enquiry Committee and the Central Government. So far as the States are concerned, the Constitution is rigid. It has laid down what taxes the States can levy and what taxes they cannot levy. If we give up sales tax, there is nothing else we can do. The share from the income-tax and the excise duties that we get from the Central Government is all that we can depend upon, and that is not enough. The States are allowed to levy sales tax or purchase tax. It is given to the States under the Indian Constitution for the reason that it is a tax which depends on local circumstances. No tax is pleasant. Every tax is oppressive. I admit that there are difficulties. But what can we do if we give up this tax on account of difficulties? We must restore the drink tax. It means we tax a few unfortunate people in the country in order to balance the budget. It would be very wrong. No doubt in introducing that tax we tax in an indirect way. Drink deceives and beguiles the consumer. Instead of that, we have this sales tax which does not deceive anybody.

“ It is no good saying that merchants pay, and that commerce is being injured by this tax. They extract every pie from top to bottom at all the multiple points, and a little more, if I may say so, from the consumer. There is no question about it. But there are some cases where they cannot transfer it to the consumer. For instance in the case of newspapers they cannot transfer it to the

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consumer. Therefore, newspapers managed to get off. They have got a rule that it is only the Central Government that can tax them, and that we have no power to tax them. Such is the power of the Press ! that is to say, the industry or the profession connected with the Press.

“ Then I come to the bus tax. We have tried to get some money out of the transport in the country. This has been going on for a long time. It was not introduced by this Government. But it has been there for a long time. Compared to the other States, it has been remarked by some, especially by those who are interested in reducing the tax on the transport system, that we tax more heavily than other States. The Finance Minister will deal with the question whether it has killed or has injured the transport system. The fact is that a democratic system of Government, while it has many advantages, has some disadvantages also. The representatives of the people are bound to look forward to the next elections necessarily, and it is good before elections that we say that we do not want this tax and that tax, knowing very well that the Government cannot give up taxes, that the budget has to be balanced, and the Government have to carry on. We get credit, so far as the argument goes, that we have pleaded for the abolition of this tax and that tax. There is, therefore, a very strong temptation for us all, including the Government, to say ‘ we would like to abolish this tax and that tax ’. But that is just impossible, and that is why I would ask for greater co-operation and outright speaking. I have reached a stage when I can ask the forgiveness of the House to say that we must be a little bolder in our arguments, and a little more frank when we deal with public matters. We should not say anything for the sake of popularity. We should all learn to speak out what is good as we see, and be fair and just to one another. It is not good to be thinking of the elections. We must remember what the giants of democracy like Burke have said, namely, ‘ once you are elected, you are an independent man ’. Even recently, it was repeated in a different way. Mr. Churchill the other day said ‘ ours is not a mandatory democracy ’. A Member who is elected does not depend on mandates to carry on his work. He does his work according to the best of his lights. Therefore I would say that hon. Members . . . (Interruption by Sri K. Balasubramania Ayyar.) What is the promise? ‘ We never made a promise that sales tax would be abolished. We never made a promise that bus people would be treated leniently. We never made a promise that drink would be restored: What is the promise that we made, and which we are breaking now? Therefore, even if a promise was rashly made, we are bound to say that the promise was made wrongly. So far, I would go. I think Government in a democracy will not be possible unless we develop those characteristics. I hope that I will be forgiven for these remarks of mine. I hope, Sir, the general result of this discussion will be co-operation and sympathy with the difficulties which the Government have to face.” (Cheers.)

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SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not take more than five minutes. Unfortunately, the discussion this morning has been so varied and miscellaneous that it was not possible for any single member to deal with all the questions that have been raised. The other day, a Member of this Council, when I was talking to him about what one should say on the financial statement made to this House and the other House, said that we could go on discussing anything from China to Peru and we could discuss the Korean question and also the U.N.O. and what not. It is quite possible to scatter our attention over a number of subjects like prohibition, education, caste system, democracy versus totalitarianism, fascism, socialism, communism, religion, philosophy, metaphysics, and what not. I do not know whether any good purpose will be served by going on dealing with these questions in that fashion. It would not be anything like a guidance to the Government. It is better to concentrate upon one or two things so that the Government may know exactly what we feel. On going through the statement made by the Finance Minister and also the speech of the Hon. the Chief Minister, which gave us the real picture of the matter, I came to this conclusion, namely, that the financial statement could be so made by a clever man as to satisfy all parts of the Legislature. I remember reading the speech of the greatest Finance Member of the Victorian Era, William E. Gladstone and his antagonists (equally clever men) Benjamin Disraeli and Lord Beaconsfield.

“வானத்தை வில்லாக வளைத்து, மணலைக் கயிராகத் திரித்து, பார்க்கலைக் கடைந்து அமிர்தம் கூடக் கொண்டு வருவார்கள். (Inter- ruption.) ‘ப்ரொகிபிஷன்’ இருக்கும்போது வேறு மாதிரி செய்யக் கூடாது. அமிர்தம் கூடப் ப்ரொகிபிஷன் சட்டத்திற்கு உட்பட்டதோ, இல்லையோ தெரியாது. குடிக்கிறவர்களெல்லாம் குடிக்கிற பதார்த்தத்தை அமிர்தம் என்றுதான் நினைக்கிறார்கள். தேவர்கள் அமிர்தத்தைச் சாப்பிட்டார்கள். அவர்களுடைய நிலைமை எப்படி இருந்தது என நான் சொல்வதற்கு இப்பொழுது தயாராய் இல்லை. அதற்கு ஆதாரம் நம்முடைய புராணங்களிலுள்ள கதைகளிலும் கிடையாது. ஒரு வேளை இருந்திருக்கலாம். இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் நம்முடைய முதல் மந்திரி அவர்களைப் போல் அந்தக் காலத்தில் ஒரு ‘ப்ரொகிபிஷன்’ மந்திரி இருந்திருந்தால் ‘அமிர்தத்தைக் குடிக்கிறது தப்பு’ என்று ப்ரொகிபிஷன் சட்டத்தை ‘அப்னை’ பண்ணி இருக்கலாம். தூதிருஷ்டவசமாக நம்முடைய முதல் மந்திரியைப் போல் அந்தக் காலத்தில் யாரும் இருக்கவில்லை.

Now I shall pass on to speak a few words in English. I am not a great scholar in Tamil like hon. Member Sri Annamalai Pillai or our Hon. Chief Minister or our Hon. Friend Mr. Subramaniam. Mr. Gladstone's antagonist said this, namely, ‘Gladstone has a peculiar knack of juggling with figures, and he has got boundless rhetoric at his disposal so that he can make a deficit budget into a surplus budget within the twinkling of an eye’. As I was reading the financial statement, I thought of this remark of Benjamin Disraeli. It looks as if we have a lot of arithmetical figures which we can juggle with and come to any conclusion. If it is a deficit of Rs. 50 lakhs, with some calculation or miscalculation, you may turn the deficit into a surplus. By an equally clever and ingenious calculation or miscalculation, you can reduce the deficit to almost

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zero. All these things are quite possible. On going through the statement, I find that the Ministers are taking credit for even the timely rains that we had. It looks to me as if they were responsible for the seasonal rains that we had. It may be that there is something behind it. Looking at the Hon. Chief Minister, I am reminded of a Tamil poem that I used to read in my younger days about rain.

“வேதம் ஓதிய வேதியர்க்கொரு மழை, மனுநீதி தவறாத மன்னர்க்கொரு மழை, கற்புடைய மாதர்க்கொரு மழை, என்று மாதம் மும்மாரி பெய்யுமென்று அந்தக் காலத்தில் சொல்லுவார்கள். இந்தக் காலத்தில், நம்முடைய கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் வேதம் சரியாக ஓதிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறாரோ, என்னமோ, அவர்களுக்காகவும் மழை பெய்திருக்கலாம். அல்லது மற்றவர்களுக்காகவும் மழை பெய்திருக்கலாம். ஆனால், அவரைப்பற்றி மட்டும் நான் முக்கியமாக ஏன் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால், அவர் இந்த விஷயத்தைப் பற்றியும், ஆஸ்திகத்தைப்பற்றியும் அடிக்கடி சொல்லி வருகிறபடியினால், கடவுள் அவரிடத்தில் பிரியம் வைத்து, நம்முடைய தமிழ் நாட்டுக்கு மிகவும் அவசியமாக மழை வேண்டிய காலத்தில் மழையை அனுப்பியிருப்பார் என்று நினைக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அதைப் பற்றி தப்பாக நினைக்கக்கூடாது. ‘ஸயன்ஸ்’ படித்தவர்கள் இதை ‘superstition’ என்று சொல்லுவார்கள்.

That is, ‘we have no control over Nature and Natural forces; our prayers are of no avail before the forces of Nature’. Sir, I am not one of those people who believe this. Human thoughts do affect Nature. Religious thoughts and attitudes of certain people must certainly have an effect upon cosmic forces. I do believe that in that way our Ministers may congratulate themselves on the timely rains that we had.

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“At the same time, I was alarmed at the statement of the Hon. the Finance Minister that the Government were contemplating the imposition of a betterment levy. He hopes that the rains will be plentiful and the conditions will improve so rapidly that betterment levy can be imposed. But I am not sure whether that would be of much use to us. In every budget one should have expected reduction of taxation. That is a policy which ought to have been followed by the Hon. the Finance Minister. Unfortunately, in the present Budget we see no reduction of taxation at all. On the contrary, hopes have been held out that the prices are falling. Fair price shops have been closed down, because it is said there is not much demand. I do not know whether it is correct to say that prices are falling. From the experience of my own household life, I can say that prices are fluctuating. One day rice sells at 14 annas a Madras measure and on another day it sells at 15 annas. So, we cannot count upon the prices being kept at a certain level. Prices may go down but they have also a knack of rising unaccountably. They are beyond human calculations.

“Sir, I congratulate the Government on the presentation of this Budget in spite of all its defects. On the whole, we are passing through a very serious economic crisis. We should steer clear of bankruptcy. I hope that the next year’s Budget which will be

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presented to us in the near future will give a more optimistic and realistic picture and the proposals contained therein will be such as to confer benefits on the people.

“One word more before I close. I expected the Government to undertake some responsibility in regard to the tramway dispute that has been going on. The poor public who had been using the tramways have been deprived of them. If only the Government had made up their mind to utilise some of their finances for taking over the tramways, in spite of the opposition offered, I think they would have added a glowing feather to their cap. I still do believe that something may be done sooner or later to take over the tramways. Certainly, it is a productive asset. It will fetch an income of many lakhs of rupees to the impoverished exchequer of the Government.

“I do not want to take up the time of the House any longer. I can only say that considering all things, as we are human beings and human nature being what it is, we have the best form of Government here. We have better Ministers in our State than in any other part of the country. But that is what we deserve to have. I really express my gratitude to all the Heavenly powers for all the blessings that they have conferred on us. I hope better times are in store for us and we shall be discussing the next year's Budget in more propitious circumstances.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“The House will now rise for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m.”

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—“Mr. Chairman, I thought I should begin my speech in the old fashioned way of congratulating the new Ministers, but almost stopped doing it as they are not here now. Well, Sir, as the Hon. Lady Minister has just now come I extend her my welcome and offer my congratulations to her and to the new Ministers whom also I welcome to this House. I will now pass over the various criticisms that were occasionally levelled, because there are not many people to listen and we are also pressed for time as there has been pressure from various Members who have troubled you as I myself have done.

“Now, about the abolition of the palmyra tax in Tirunelveli district. I thought I could congratulate the Revenue Minister. But unfortunately, the Hon. Minister is not here. But that does not matter very much. What matters really is that the tax has been transferred to the land as it were. It is a case of giving a thing by the right hand and taking it away by the left hand or *vice versa*. Does the Government really afford any benefit to the land-owner by freeing him from this palmyra tree tax and reimposing it on the land? Tirunelveli district is the only one district in which this tax is in force. There is no other district in which this tax is levied. We have been agitating that this tax should be abolished.

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If the Government remove this tax and at the same time ask those people to pay some equivalent of it as land tax, it is not the proper way of doing things. As the Hon. Chief Minister said the other day, palmyra trees were planted on lands which were not fit for anything. The land was not yielding anything. If palmyra trees are planted thereon, it is not going to improve the land. That being so, the tax on these lands cannot be increased. I want the Hon. the Chief Minister, the Revenue Minister and even the Government as a whole to reconsider the matter and do justice.

"As regards the budget itself, I congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on the very short and good budget that he has prepared and presented to the House. After spending the money for three or four months, he has now come forward for sanction for the remaining two months and also for sanction for the amount that has already been spent. Therefore no useful purpose will be served by criticising the Government on the various items mentioned in the Budget.

"I am now going to refer to a very important subject. In spite of the fact that there have been heavy rains, floods and even damages as a result of floods in the Godavari, the Krishna and the Thungabhadra rivers in the Andhra area and also in some of the rivers in Tanjore district in the south, as pointed out by Mr. Govinda Menon there was no rain in some parts of Malabar, two taluks in Tirunelveli district, viz., Nanguneri and Sankarankoil. It would be a surprise to the Members of the House as it was to me. But somehow or other the Rain God has not blessed these two taluks with the result the crops in those areas are already withering away or will wither away. There is only one way of getting water to these places. The Government must ask the District Collector to attend to the distribution of water in a manner that would benefit these two taluks, or at least one taluk, viz., Nanguneri. In the other taluk there are not many tanks. In the Nanguneri taluk, there are a number of tanks and the Government must see that water is supplied to these tanks by regulation. This will benefit the ryots of that taluks to some extent. I personally know the position and I am prepared to explain to the Hon. the Finance Minister the real position there. There are channels which could be used to supply water to the lower irrigation tanks. I made a suggestion to Sri N. Ranga Reddy when he was in charge of the Public Works Department. We have got the Manimuthar Project. It is fairly high up. There have been floods recently in the Tambraparni. I want the channels to be dug even now. I remember the Finance Minister telling somewhere in Tirunelveli that the channels are always dug along with the progress of the work. If that is really done, then it is all right. If it is not done, I request the Government to dig these channels first and let out the surplus water into those channels. I do not want the normal regulated water-supply to be interfered with. I only want the high flood water to be diverted into these channels which

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reach the taluks mentioned by me just now. I want the Government to accelerate and expedite the digging of these channels. Even though the actual dam or project may not be completed, there are ways by which the flood water, which would otherwise go to waste, could be utilized for the benefit of those taluks. Recently there were floods in the Tambraparni and much of the water which would otherwise have been utilized for the benefit of the two taluks through channels, has gone to waste.

“ There is one other matter to which I would like to refer. Recently I remember to have read in the newspapers that in Coimbatore somebody has stated that he has experimented on rain-making at a little cost. If the Government could really do something in the matter and conduct the experiment on a wide scale, I am sure the famine conditions in the two taluks of Tirunelveli and also in Srivilliputtur could be relieved to a great extent. That is a matter for experts to consider and for the Government to take action.

“ I will once again repeat what I have said in my previous budget speech and I will continue to repeat it as long as I am a Member of the Council, and it is with reference to the village reconstruction programme. Village reconstruction is a matter on which the Government should stake their existence. Even if the Government are not able to improve the conditions of the villagers in all the districts, let them select a few villages in the districts, just as they have done in the case of the community projects. Reconstruction does not mean a patchwork here and a patchwork there. We must have a village republic so to say. All powers must be given to these republics so that they may function effectively. These powers may be given to those village republics subject to the control and direction of any officers the Government may appoint for the purpose. Let these officers guide these republics. If anything is done from the top in such a way as to affect those at the bottom, I am sure there will be trouble. Our villages are at the bottom and we should organize from the bottom. If South India has survived the many assaults and attacks in the past, it is because of our efficient village organizations.

“ Our revered friend, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, vaguely suggested that there were not men in the villages to run pan-chayats. I may tell him that I come from a village; I was born in a village and bred up in a village; I know the conditions of the village much better than possibly any other Member of this House. I have repeatedly said that the village has got much better men than you have at places where higher education is provided because a man, who is highly educated, looks for a profession to earn money whereas it is not the case with a villager. As one conversant with village affairs I may say that the villagers have a sense of simple justice and a fair sense of equality. They are able to control offences and they do not require a police force to investigate crimes. They themselves will attend to this. If men who are retired employees and who have time are enabled to

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come to these villages and organize them, some of these will be model villages for others to follow. I am not pleading for electricity to be provided; I am not pleading for cottage industries being organized in villages. They all will come in course of time. The villagers are really not getting anything now and it looks as though Swaraj has not come to them. They must have Swaraj at least in this way, and that is the only way of improving their living conditions. We must also encourage educated men to go and settle in villages. I do not say that a young man having an ambition to become this and that should be asked to go to a village. There are old, educated retired men who have no work in cities. They may be asked and induced to go to the village. At the same time, we must not put too many educated men in the village because they will quarrel. One man should be put in charge of a panchayat and then things will go on all right.

"Sir, it was again Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar who said that Ministers should tour all countries of the world. I entirely agree. But I think there is greater need for them to tour villages. They must be asked to go and stay in villages at least for a month in a year so that they can understand the conditions in the village, how poor and how miserable the villagers are, and whether they get a square meal a day with all our professions of sympathy towards them. If the Government can do anything which will make them get something, then I think they will be satisfied and their lot will be improved. They are today even worse than what they were during the days of the British rule. I do not, of course, expect a Bill to be brought before the House incorporating the suggestions I have made. Let it not come tomorrow. Let it come ten years hence and I shall be happy.

"Sir, many things have been said here, but not all quite relevant to the Budget under discussion. I think I have also said something which is not relevant to the discussion. What I wanted to emphasise was that if the condition of the people could be improved, it would be only by improving the condition of the villager. Sir, I want to refer to the modified scheme of education introduced by the Government. On the last occasion when the Council met, I attempted to catch the eye of the Chairman but I could not. Some Member referred to pial schools springing up in opposition to the new scheme of Elementary education. I am glad that they are springing up. Why should Education be made the responsibility of the Government alone? Every village must have the power, the authority and the necessary finances to organize pial schools. I am myself a product of the pial school. Do you think, Sir, I am not capable of managing a village? A pial school is not such a bad thing as others imagine. Take a pial school boy and an English educated boy. The pial school boy will top the list in any examination. Therefore, it is not a negligible thing. I think if there are more pial schools started, the new education scheme would justify itself. Apart from this, I do not know from whom the agitator against the new education scheme

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originated. After all, the children who will be affected by the scheme would be between five and eight years of age and the Hon. the Chief Minister, possibly anticipating an attack from the House, explained the circumstances under which the scheme was introduced. Under the old system of education, the under-dogs—I shall not put it that way—men belonging to the lower strata of society did not have an opportunity to send their children to school whereas men of the higher strata were and are capable of educating their children in a much better manner. The shift system now proposed gives the former set of people a chance to educate their boys and girls. It is said that the school-going population including girls is only 30 per cent of the total population. What about the remaining 70 per cent? It would be good, therefore, if three or even four shifts are introduced instead of the two shifts proposed in the new scheme. When you teach, children do not possibly learn so much as they would if they see and observe. So, nobody should be sorry that this system has been introduced because it gives you a chance to educate your children in your own way. I do not think there is any objection from the villager because he did not get any education whatever under the old set-up. Students should be provided with midday meals and this will be a prize to attract boys and girls to school. So, the shift system is a very proper thing and I am sure the benefit of the scheme will be known some years hence.

“I thank you, Sir, for having given me this opportunity to speak.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“Hon. Members will confine their speeches to ten minutes each because there is a large number of speakers to go through.”

SRI N. NALLASENAPATHI SARKARAI MANRADIAR :—“கனம் சேர்மன் அவர்களே, இந்தச் சபையில் இருக்கும் மெம்பர்களில் நான் வயதில் மிகவும் சிறியவன். அதிக வயதுள்ள, முதிர்ந்த அனுபவம் நிறைந்த மெம்பர்களுக்கு தாராளமாக நேரம் கொடுத்து வந்தீர்கள். அதைப்போல் சிறிய வயதுடைய எனக்கும் அந்தச் சலுகையைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்தக் கோரிக்கையுடன் என்னுடைய பட்ஜெட் விவாதத்தை ஆரம்பிக்கிறேன்.

“இப்பொழுது அரை வருஷ பட்ஜெட் தயாரித்ததில் நாம் மீதத்தைப் பார்க்கிறோம். அவ்விதம் தயாரித்துள்ள எனது நண்பர் எனது இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர். என் ஜில்லாவைச் சேர்ந்த கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு என் நன்றியை நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதற்கு நான் பெருமைப்படுகிறேன். பொதுவாக எந்த ஒரு குடும்பம் வருவாயை விட சிலவை கம்மியாகச் செய்து வருகிறதோ அது என்றும் நன்றாக முன்னுக்கு வரும் நிலையில் இருக்கும். பல குடும்பங்களுக்குத் தலைமை தாங்கி இருக்கும் நமது கவர்ன்மெண்டானது இப்படி ஒரு மீதமுள்ள பட்ஜெட்டை தயாரித்தபோது அந்த கவர்ன்மெண்ட் நன்றாக நடைபெறும் என்றுதான் நான் நினைக்கிறேன்.

“ஐந்தாறு வருஷ காலமாக மழையின்மையால் பல இடங்களில் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டு விவசாயிகள் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஏதோ இந்த வருஷம் சில இடங்களில் நன்றாக மழை பெய்து கொஞ்சம் அங்கங்கே செழுமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இருந்தாலும் அதிகமாக பயிர்களில் பூச்சிகள்

[“ri N. Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Manradiar] [81st December 1953]

ஏற்பட்டு தான்யங்கள் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு விட்டன. இதற்கு விவசாய இலாகாவிற்கு துரிதமாக நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்க வசதி இருந்தும், அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்ட் டிமான்ஸ்ட்ரேட்டர் (Demonstrator) கிராமங்களுக்கு நேராகப் போய் பார்க்கவேண்டிய காரியங்களை துரிதமாகச் செய்யவில்லை என்பதை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த டிமான்ஸ்ட்ரேட்டர் இன்டீரியர் (interior) கிராமங்களுக்குச் சென்று, விவசாயிகளுடன் பழக்கம் ஏற்படுத்திக் கொண்டு அவர்களுக்கு என்ன ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்வதற்கு கவர்ன்மெண்ட் உடனடியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்களாகவே பல காரியங்களைப் பார்ப்பது இல்லை. பொதுவாக விவசாயி யார்? டிமான்ஸ்ட்ரேட்டர் யார்? என்ற தொடர்பு இல்லாமல் இருந்துகொண்டு வருகிறது. எவ்வளவோ பிரகடனம் இருந்தும் திடீர் என்று பயிர்களில் பூச்சிகள் ஏற்பட்டால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய மருந்துகளை அடிக்கக்கூடிய கருவிகள் தாராளமாக கிடைக்கும்படியாக இருக்க வேண்டும். ஏதோ ஒரு அளவிற்கு இருந்தாலும் பரவாயில்லை. அதிகமாக ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செல்விலை அதைச் செய்து கொடுத்தால் ஒரு பத்து, பதினைந்து வருஷத்தில் அதற்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டிய கடன்களை விவசாயிகள் திருப்பித் தரலாம் என்பதைச் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக, விவசாய காலேஜ்களில் மாணவர்களைச் சேர்க்கும்போது விவசாயக் குடும்பங்களிலிருந்து வரக்கூடிய மாணவர்களுக்கு முதல் சலுகை காட்டவேண்டும். விவசாயக் கல்லூரியில் ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு இத்தனை மாணவர்களைத்தான் சேர்த்துக் கொள்வது என்ற நிர்ணயம் இருக்கும் போது விவசாயக் குடும்பங்களிலிருந்து வரும் மாணவர்களுக்கு இவ்வளவு இடம் என்று நிர்ணயம் செய்து அவர்களுக்கு சலுகை அளிக்க வேண்டும். இதில் எந்த ஜாதியைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள், எந்த மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் என்று திட்டம் செய்ய வேண்டியதில்லை. விவசாயக் குடும்பத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாக இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று மாதிரி நிர்ணயிக்க வேண்டும். விவசாயிகளுக்கு கடன் தாராளமாகக் கிடைக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும். நானும் ஒரு விவசாயக் குடும்பத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவன்தான். என்னைப்போல் இருப்பவர்கள் ஏதோ சமாளித்துக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் சிறு குடும்பங்கள் ஏதோ கடனை வாங்கி அவஸ்தைப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவ்விதம் இருக்கும்போது அவர்கள் வாங்கிக் கடனை எப்படி கொடுக்க முடியும்? அதை யோசனை செய்து பார்த்தால் இப்பொழுது இந்தக் கடன் மசோதா வந்தது ஒரு நல்ல வரப்பிரசாதம் என்று தான் சொல்லவேண்டும். உதாரணமாக எங்கள் தலைவர் சொன்ன மாதிரி உண்டியல் என்ற ஒரு business இப்பொழுது இருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு தாராளமாக பாங்குகள் பணம் கொடுக்கின்றன. அவர்கள் ஆறு சதவிகிதம் வட்டிக்குக் கடன் வாங்கி மற்ற விவசாயிகளுக்கு அதிக வட்டிக்குக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இப்படி அதிக வட்டிக்குக் கடன் வாங்குகிறவர்கள் சாதாரணமாக விவசாயிகள்தான் என்று நான் சொல்லுவேன். அதனால் இந்த விவசாயிகள் அதிகமாக கடன்பட்டு அவஸ்தைப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதைப் போலவே விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஒரு செக்யூரிடி மூலமாக ஏதாவது ஒரு விதத்தில் பாங்கியில் கடன் பெறக் கூடிய ஒரு செளகரியத்தைச் செய்து கொடுத்தால் செளகரியமாக இருக்கும். இதை கவர்ன்மெண்ட் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக நீர்பாசன திட்டங்களை எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் இப்பொழுது அமராவதி திட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தினதற்கு அந்தப் பக்கத்தில் இருக்கும் ஜனங்கள் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறார்கள். அதை அநேகம் பேர்கள் வரவேற்கிறார்கள். அது தாராயிரம் பக்கத்திற்கும், உருமலைப்பேட்டை பக்கத்திற்கும் மிகவும் பிரயோசனப்படுகிறது. அதைப் போல் பல சிறிய நீர்பாசன திட்டங்களை எடுத்து நிறைவேற்றினால் மிகவும் செளகரியமாக இருக்கும். நீர்பாசன திட்டங்களை அமைக்கும்போது அங்கங்கே கிராமத்தார்களுடைய யோசனைகளைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு அதன் பேரில் அங்கங்கே சிறு ஓடைகளையும் காட்டாறுகளையும் தடுத்த பல திட்டங்களை எடுத்து நடத்தினால் மிகவும் செளகரியமாக இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது லோயர் பவானி கெனல் (canal) வரப்போகிறது. அதனால் பல மேய்ச்சல்

31st December 1953] [Sri N. Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Manradiair]

தரைகளுக்கு தண்ணீர் வசதி ஏற்படப்போகிறது. மேய்ச்சல் தரைகளுக்கு பாய்ச்சும் தண்ணீருக்கு கவர்ன்மெண்டர் போடும் தீர்வைக்கு ஒரு சலுகை கொடுக்கவேண்டும். தண்ணீர் வரக்கூடிய இடங்களில் இதை சர்க்கார் செய்துகொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ அடுத்தபடியாக சிறுவாணி ஆற்றில் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாக தண்ணீர்போவதைத் திருப்பி கொஞ்ச தூரத்தில் டன்னல் (tunnel) மூலமாகக் கொண்டு போய் வறட்சியாக இருக்கும் பிரதேசங்களில் பாய்ந்து நொய்யல் ஆற்றில் அந்தத் தண்ணீரைக் கொண்டுவரமுடியும். இப்பொழுது அந்த நொய்யல் நதி சுமார் 30, 32 குளங்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் சப்ளைசெய்கிறது. இந்தத் திட்டத்தை எடுத்து நடத்தினால் சிக்கனமாக முடித்துவிடலாம். அது பல குளங்களுக்கு உபயோகப்படும் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ அடுத்தபடியாக கால்நடை அபிவிருத்தியைப் பற்றி பேசும்போது கால்நடை இலாகா வைத்தியர்களுடைய பாடு மிகவும் பெருமைப்படக் கூடிய காரியமாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் ஆரம்பத்திலேயே (preventive method) எடுத்துக் கொண்டு இனக்குலேஷன் (inoculation) செய்கிறார்கள். அதனால் ரிண்டர் பெஸ்ட் (rinder pest) பளாக் வாட்டர் (black water) என்ற பல நோய்களை இந்த preventive method மூலமாக தடுக்க வேலை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் முன் ஜாக்கிரதையுடன் வேலை செய்து வருவதால் கால்நடைகளுக்கு அந்த நோய்கள் வருவது இல்லை. இப்பொழுது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிற்கும் ஒரு கால்நடை வைத்தியர்கள் இருக்கிறார். அவர்களுக்கு சில செளகரியங்களை கவர்ன்மெண்டர் செய்து கொடுத்தால் மிகவும் நலமாக இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது விவசாய இலாகா ஆபீசர்களுக்கு கார்கள் கொடுத்து வசதி செய்து கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதைப் போலவே இந்த கால்நடை இலாகா ஆபீசர்களுக்கும் செளகரியம் செய்து கொடுத்தால் மிகவும் நலமாக இருக்கும். அது மாத்திரம் அல்ல. நோய் வந்து தடுப்பதை விட நோய் வரும் முன் அதைத் தடுப்பது கால்நடைகள் விஷயத்தில் மிகவும் நலமாக இருக்கிறது. என்னுடைய கால்நடை பண்ணையில் ஒரு மாடு கூட இது வரையில் நோய் வந்து இறந்தது இல்லை. காரணம் அவர்களுடைய ஒரு முன் ஜாக்கிரதையான வேலை தான். ஆகவே இப்பொழுது கால்நடை ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் நகரங்களில் இருப்பதைவிட கிராமங்களில் இருப்பதே மிகவும் நலமாக இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது நகரங்களில் இருப்பதால் பல மைல்கள் போக வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே கால்நடைகளுக்கு சிகிச்சை செய்வதற்கு கிராமங்களில் கால்நடை ஆஸ்பத்திரி எற்படுத்தவது நலம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். கால்நடை வளர்ப்பு என்பது சுலபமான வேலையோ ஒரு லாபகரமான காரியமோ அல்ல. என்னுடைய சிறு அனுபவத்தில் அதைப் பற்றி சொல்ல முடியும். இருந்தாலும் சொந்த கால்நடை பண்ணை வைத்திருப்பதற்கும் கவர்ன்மென்ட் கால்நடை பண்ணை வைத்திருப்பதற்கும் கொஞ்சம் வித்தியாசம் இருக்கிறது. சொந்தமாக வைத்திருப்பதைவிட கவர்ன்மென்ட் வைத்திருப்பதில் செலவு அதிகமாக ஆகிறது. அதற்கு (local advisory committee) என்று ஒரு கமிட்டி அமைத்து நடத்தினால் நலமாக இருக்கும். ஏனென்றால் ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு முறையாவது வேண்டாம் என்ற கால்நடைகளை அழித்துத் தீரவேண்டும். கவர்ன்மென்ட் பண்ணைகளில் கால்நடைகளை குறைக்க வேண்டும் என்றால் பார்த்திருந்து கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு எழுதவேண்டும். பிறகு மேலிடத்திலிருந்து உத்தரவு வரும். அதன் பிறகு அந்த மாட்டை விற்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய ஒரு வருஷம் ஆகிறது. அதற்குள் அதற்குப் போடும் தீனிச் செலவு அதிகமாக ஆகின்றது. அதற்கு பதிலாக ஒரு (local advisory committee)-ஐ ஏற்படுத்தினால் அவர்களுடைய ஒரு யோசனையின் பேரில் அவர்களைக் கேட்டு அவர்கள் மூலமாக அந்த மாடுகளை நாம் அப்புறப்படுத்தி விடலாம். வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை அல்லது இரண்டு தடவை இவ்விதம் செய்வதற்கு ஒரு அட்வைசரி கமிட்டி இருப்பது அவசியம்.

“ இப்பொழுது உதாரணமாக ஹொசூர் பாரத்தை எடுத்துக் சொள்வோம் அங்கே ஒரு கவர்ன்மென்ட் பாரம் இருக்கிறது. அங்கு தான் சிந்தி பசுக்கள் (breed) வைத்திருந்தார்கள். மற்ற சிந்தி பசுக்கள் எல்லாம் பாகிஸ்தானுக்குப்

[Sri N. Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Manradia] [31st December 1953]

போய்விட்டன. அந்த மாடுகள் தான் நல்ல பால் கொடுக்கும். இப்பொழுது நமக்கு சிந்தி பசு வேண்டும் என்றால் அது ஹொசூரில் தான் கிடைக்கிறது. நமக்கு நிறைய பால் வேண்டுமே இருப்பதால் அங்கு அவைகளை வைத்து வளர்ப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும். அதனால் பல செளகரியங்கள் ஏற்படும். சிந்தி மாடுகளை அங்கே உற்பத்தி செய்தால் நலமாக இருக்கும். அதை விட்டால் நல்ல பால் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய வேறு எந்த ஜாதியும் கிடை யாது. இப்பொழுது காங்கேயம் ஜாதியை அங்கே வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். காங்கேயம் ஜாதிக்கு அங்கே (climate) ஒத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. அந்த இடம் அவைகளுக்குப் பிடிக்கவில்லை. அவைகளை அங்கே வைத்திருப்பதை விட அதைவிட சிறந்த இடத்திற்கு அதாவது காங்கேயம் இடத்திற்கு மாற்றி விட்டால் நலமாக இருக்கும். அதன் பிறகு அங்கிருக்கும் சிந்தி பசுக்களை அதிக உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு வசதி செய்து கொள்ளலாம். இப்படிச் செய்தால் ஒரு பக்கம் நல்ல பால் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய மாடுகளை உற்பத்தி செய்யவும் மற்றொரு பக்கம் காங்கேய கால்நடைகளை உற்பத்தி செய்யவும் செளகரியம் ஏற்படும். உதாரணமாக கோயமுத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் கால்நடை அதிகமாக இருப்பதால் அங்கு வெட்டரிநரி டாக்டர்கள் இரண்டு பேர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். மற்ற இடங்களில் ஒருவர் தான் இருக்கிறார். அதைப்போல அதிகமாக கால் நடை இருக்கும் இடங்களுக்கு இந்த வெட்டரிநரி ஆபீசர்களைவிட கால்நடை அபிவிருத்தி ஆபீசர் என்று ஏற்படுத்தினால் நன்றாக இருக்கும்.

“இப்பொழுது அங்கங்கே கம்யூனிட்டி ப்ராஜெக்ட்களும் நேஷனல் எக்ஸ் டென்ஷன் ஸ்கீம்களும் (Community Project, National Extension Scheme) நடந்து வருகின்றன. அதற்குத் தேவையான ஆட்களை நியமித்து இருக்கிறார்கள். அதை கவனிக்கும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இரண்டு நாட்களுக்கு முன் ஒரு தகவல் வெளியிட்டார். அது சந்தோஷமான காரியம். இருந்த போதிலும் அதில் இருக்கும் ஆபீசர்கள் கிராம ஜனங்களுடன் நன்றாக அன்போடு பழக வேண்டும். ஆனால் ஒரு காரியம் நான் சொல்லுவேன். ஒரு வேலை செய்வது என்று இருந்தால் அதற்கு ஜனங்கள் பாதி பணம் கொடுத்தால் சர்க்கார் பாதி கொடுப்பது என்று இருப்பதாக அங்குள்ள அங்கு வளவது திருப்திகரமாக இல்லை. அதற்கு ஆகும் செலவில் நாலில் ஒரு பங்கையாவது கிராமத்தார்களிடமிருந்து வாங்கிக்கொண்டு பாக்கி தொகையை கவர்ன்மென்ட் கொடுத்தால் மிகவும் நலமாக இருக்கும். உதாரணமாக ஒரு கட்டிடம் கட்ட வேண்டும் என்று இருந்தால் மராமத்து இலாகா 40 ஆயிரம் செலவு ஆகும் என்று திட்டம் போட்டுக் கொடுத்தால் இன்றைக்கு இருக்கும் கவர்ன்மென்ட் உத்தரவு பிரகாரம் கிராமத்தார்கள் 20 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இவ்விதம் கிராமவாசிகள் 20 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்றால் அவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்க முடிவதில்லை. அவர்களுக்கு அந்த வசதி இல்லை என்பது எனது அபிப்பிராயம்.

“இப்பொழுது நடந்த பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு எலெக்ஷனிலிருந்து கிராமங்களில் அதிகமான கட்சிகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. எனக்கு முன் பேசின தலைவர்கள் அதைப்பற்றி நன்றாகப் பேசிவிட்டார்கள். உதாரணமாக நேற்று நடந்த காங்கேயம் எலெக்ஷனை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுவோம். காங்கிரஸ் கட்சி என்றோ கம்யூனிஸ்ட் கட்சி என்றோ அல்லது மற்ற Independent கட்சி என்றோ, நடந்த எலெக்ஷனுக்கு வேலை செய்ததாக தெரியவில்லை. இந்த விதமாக வந்ததில் அங்கு பல கட்சிகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. அதைப்போல் தாலுகா போர்டு எலெக்ஷன் வந்தாலும் பல கட்சிகள் ஏற்படலாம். ஆகவே இந்த மாதிரி பஞ்சாயத்து போர்ட், தாலுகா போர்ட் என்று இல்லாமல் பழையபடி டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டு என்று இருப்பது தான் நல்லது என்பது எனது தாழ்மையான அபிப்பிராயம்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக முக்கியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டியது ஒரே ஒரு விஷயம். இப்பொழுது கிராமங்களில் மணியகாரர்கள், கர்ணம்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இருக்கும் வேலைகளைப் பார்த்தால் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் சம்பளம் மிகவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் அந்த அந்த ஊர்களில் இருந்து கொண்டு வேலை செய்து வருவதால் ஏதோ அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய

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வேலைகளை கவனித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலையில் அவர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்கும் ரூ. 20 அல்லது ரூ. 22 சம்பளத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் வேலை செய்து கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அந்த நிலையில் அவர்கள் ஸ்தானத்தில் ரூ. 20 அல்லது ரூ. 22 சம்பளத்தில் வேறு உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை நியமிப்பது முடியாத காரியம். அவர்கள் செய்யக்கூடிய வேலையை மற்றவர்கள் அந்த சம்பளத்தில் செய்ய முடியாது. இதை சர்க்கார் யோசித்து செய்யவேண்டும். கடைசியாக ஒரே ஒரு விஷயத்தைச் சொல்லிக் கொண்டு எதை பேசும் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“என்னுடைய தகப்பரை இருந்த போது தனக்குப் பிறகு எப்படி இவன் (தன்னை) இவ்வளவு பெரிய கால்நடை பண்ணையை வைத்துக் கொண்டு சமாளிக்கப்போகிறான் என்று யோசித்து மிகவும் வருத்தப்பட்டு சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். இன்று இவ்வளவு சிறிய வயதாக இருந்தாலும் அதை வைத்து நடத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறேன். அதைப்போலவே ரிடயர்ட் ஆபீசர்களால் தான் வேலைசெய்ய முடியும் என்ற அபிப்பிராயத்தை மாற்றி சின்ன வயதுக்காரர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுத்து அவர்கள் முன்னுக்கு வர வேண்டும் என்று அவர்களுக்கு உதசாகம் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். வயதான பெரியவர்கள் தான் எந்தக் காரியத்தையும் செய்ய முடியும் மற்றவர்கள் செய்ய முடியாது என்ற எண்ணத்தை மாற்றிக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அப்பொழுது தான் அடுத்து வரும் சிறிய வயதுடையவர்களுக்கு பழக்கம் ஏற்பட்டு நன்றாக அவர்களும் அந்தத் துறையில் பயனடைந்து முன்னுக்கு வர முடியும், எனக்கு இப்பொழுது பேசுவதற்கு நேரம் கொடுத்ததற்கு கனம் சேர்மன் அவர்களுக்கு என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI E. H. PARAMESWARAN :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, on account of the shortness of time, I shall try to be very brief in my observations. We are very glad that in spite of difficulties created by the partition of the State, the Government have been able to make adequate provision for capital expenditure in the Budget. I was afraid, adequate provision might not be made. Now we find that substantial amounts of money have been allotted for the Malampuzha project, the Manimuthar project, and Mettur Canals. I wish to tell the Government that it would be a suicidal policy to adopt any go-slow methods with regard to these useful projects. I also request the Government to speed up Mangalam and Walayar schemes.

“ We also see from the Budget that there is a provision of Rs. 18 lakhs for the National Extension Service, Rs. 20 lakhs for local development works and Rs. 42 lakhs for Community projects. Personally I wish that more sums had been allotted for national extension services and community projects. Our Hon. Chief Minister said that we could not achieve any miracle in such a short time. But I believe, Sir, that miracles can happen if the Community projects are worked in the proper way. In this connection I wish to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Community Projects on the enthusiasm that he has been able to create among the public at large during the short period of two months he has been in charge of the Ministry. He has been visiting several places and wherever he has gone, he created general enthusiasm among the public about these Community projects and the National Extension Services schemes. I have myself visited some of these areas. Last week also I visited some

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of the villages. I found that at a village called Koyalmannan seven miles of road has been constructed with the co-operation of 500 students. In Puthucode, which was inaccessible for years, students co-operated with the Community Project officers and engineers, and a 5-mile road was laid. Now motor cars and buses can go directly to the village. The Governor of Madras is going to inaugurate another such work in Elapulli, Palghat, where a 7-mile road is to be put up. I find there is general enthusiasm, Headmasters and students vying with one another in taking part in the Community project work. I feel that if these projects are worked properly and necessary enthusiasm and inspiration are given by the Government, the whole face of the State can be changed. People also will feel now that it is their Government that are in power and that they must co-operate with the Government. Even now there are many people who do not know what these Community projects are. I once again congratulate the Hon. Minister in charge of Community Projects on the new drive that he has been able to give in respect of these projects.

Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister pointed out that out of the total expenditure, 30½ per cent go for what may be called social services like education, co-operation, Harijan uplift, etc. With regard to Harijan uplift, I have been complaining to the Director of Harijan Welfare that scholarships are not sanctioned at the proper time. What is the use of sanctioning scholarships at the fag end of the year? When this is repeatedly pointed out to the Director of Harijan Welfare, he says: 'Grants are not available, Government have not passed orders' and so on. If the Government really want that these students should be benefited by the grant of these scholarships, these should be made available from the very beginning of the year. If scholarships are not going to be granted, at least those orders should be passed and communicated to the students so that they might know that they would not get the scholarships.

"In regard to education, my hon. Friend Sri Krishnamurthi spoke about many matters. It is unfortunate that in spite of so much talk about reorientation of education we have not been able to have any real reorientation. If we go through the resolutions passed by the Indian National Congress from 1890 to 1910 and also the National Liberal Federation, we will find those resolutions laying stress on the importance of having a national system of education, etc. Our leaders were never tired of repeating in the Press and on the platform that our education must be made to suit the genius of our people and that there must be reorientation at all stages, namely, elementary, secondary, and University. What is the reorientation that has been achieved during the last six years since we became independent? There has been no reorientation. At the beginning of the year 1954 we will have the same Madras Educational Rules, the same Grant-in-aid Code the same syllabuses and text-books, the same system of examination and the same discontented teachers that we had during the days of the British

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bureaucracy. I request Government to introduce radical reforms in these matters whether there is opposition or not. I also wish to say in this connection, that if the previous Governments had introduced reorientation in our educational system, our country would have been far better than what it is to-day. If the recommendations of the Hunter Commission appointed in 1862 had been implemented by the Government of the day, India would have been in a far better condition. Nobody paid any heed to the recommendations made by that Commission. The British Elementary Education Act was passed only in 1884. So let us not make any mistakes which were committed in the past. Let us try to reorientate the system of education as early as possible. It is also unfortunate that in spite of appeals made by the teaching profession, in spite of the recommendations made by several committees and conferences and in spite of the definite promises made on the floor of this House by the last Ministry, nothing was done by our Congress Government during the last two years to raise the status of the teachers and their salaries. I am not prepared to accept inadequacy of funds as an excuse or as an argument for not giving a better deal to the teachers. The Government want that the elementary school teachers should do their work properly. If the teachers are to perform their work properly, they should not be made to feel discontented. They should be given better wages whatever be the difficulties of the Government. These teachers getting only Rs. 35 or Rs. 40 a month should be paid at least Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 more. Even this small increase in salary will be considered by the teachers as a great boon conferred on them.

“ Now, Sir, I shall indicate the directions in which Government must introduce reforms while framing the next Budget. Let there be at least a token provision for medical inspection. This is not going to cost much. Even if it is introduced in all the Secondary schools, it would cost only Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs. The Hon. the Minister for Education and the Hon. the Minister for Health should co-operate in this matter and see that this very useful provision is made. Regarding the expansion of the Junior National Cadet Corps to taluk centres, I think this Government have no power to do it. The Government should make a recommendation to the Central Government and the Military authorities to extend this to taluk centres. There is no use of having this Corps only in district headquarters. There are big taluk centres. Let high schools in villages and taluk centres have this Corps

“ Then, Sir, in regard to Secondary Education, a Commission was appointed to go into the question and make recommendations. That commission was presided over by our distinguished friend Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. I have given notice of a non-official resolution for implementing the recommendations of the Commission. So, I will not say much on that now. We are also glad, Sir, that Government have appointed a committee to frame the syllabus for elementary schools, in accordance with the recommendations made by the expert committee. This is a matter on

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which I would like to congratulate the Government, because committees and commissions of enquiry are appointed but very often the recommendations are not put into effect and so the work of these committees and commissions become a waste. We similarly want the Government to appoint a committee to go into the recommendations made by the Secondary Education Commission and implement them.

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p.m. “ Sir, we are very glad that hon. Member Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has been the President of this Commission and the monumental Report of this Commission, if implemented, will make a great advance in Secondary Education.

“ Then there is the expansion of basic education. Some hon. Members have already referred to it and I need not say anything more about it.

“ Then I come to the pay of elementary school teachers. Their pay should be immediately increased. There should also be provision in the next year's budget for increase of pay of Secondary Grade teachers, Physical Education teachers, Drawing and Manual Training instructors. There are also anomalies in their pay which should be rectified. For instance, Manual Training instructors working in Secondary schools have been drawing their pay in the scale of Rs. 60-4-100. About 150 teachers get this scale of pay. But the Auditors object to this scale of pay and say that they can have only the scale of Rs. 50-2-90. In this way so many teachers are put to very great hardship and, therefore, I request the Government to take immediate steps to see that these unnecessary anomalies in the pay of these Manual Training instructors and Hindi Pandits are removed. I know the case of one Hindi Pandit whose pay was reduced from Rs. 105 to Rs. 50 because he had only ten hours of work in the high school classes. I am confident that the Hon. the Minister for Education will look into these anomalies and see that the grievances of teachers in this respect are redressed.

“ With regard to the Government Order which was referred to by hon. Members by Mr. Alexander Gnanamuttu and Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, I wish to tell them that in this connection, I met the Hon. the Minister for Education and also the Hon. the Chief Minister and they were full of sympathy for the teachers and they assured me that necessary orders would be passed amending the Government Order, and that it would not apply to the teachers' constituencies. I would not take up much of the time of the House but would only repeat that upon the right kind of education depends the future of this great country. If we want to have the right kind of education, we must have the right kind of teachers. The teacher is the pivot of the educational system and there can be no real educational advancement if the teacher is not treated as a human being. With these words, Sir, I have pleasure in congratulating the Hon. the Finance Minister on the very good Budget that he has presented.”

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* SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, to-day is the last day of this year and I have just now received the New Year Greetings from you. I wish you and the hon. Members of this House a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

" Sir, the other day the hon. Member, Dr. John, made a complaint against the Government that they had not given due respect to this House in the matter of presenting the Budget. To-day we have again heard from the hon. Member, Mr. Parameswaran, that the promises made on the floor of the House by the Government have not been carried out. I have more or less the same charge to make against the Government. The promises made solemnly on the floor of the House have not been fulfilled or honoured or implemented. Yesterday, I made a reference to this aspect of the matter during question-hour, when the Hon. the Revenue Minister was replying to a question on the palmyra tax. He made certain answers and I told him that the Government had not seen fit to implement the promises made by them. I have with me the official report of the proceedings of this House, dated the 21st February 1948 and I quote from it. This is the question I put—

'Whether the Government have under consideration the proposal to abolish the palmyra tax, as part of land revenue reform?'

The then Revenue Minister said: 'Yes'. It may be said that there is the word 'consideration' in this question and answer but the answer was not given, in a hurry to stave off a supplementary question but it was part of the original question and part of the written answer read out by the then Revenue Minister. Although the word 'consideration' does appear, the answer has always been taken to mean that the palmyra tax will be abolished. It has been understood in that meaning by the Government, by the people and by me. Actually when this promise was made, wide publicity was given in the areas concerned. Though it may appear that the tax is only eight pies per tree, it affects a very large number of people. It is imposed in the Tirunelveli district and in the two taluks of the Ramanathapuram district, where nearly three million people reside. When this promise was announced, it raised great hopes in the minds of the people that this tax would be abolished.

" It soon became apparent that the Government were considering ways and means to find an escape out of the promises. A year or so after the promise was made, the Government announced that the palmyra tax would be abolished on those trees grown on wet lands. Now, what is the value of this announcement if it is noted that palmyra trees do not grow on wet lands but they are grown on sandy tracts?

" Recently the Government released a Press Note, dated 15th September 1953—

'A decision to abolish the tree tax in respect of palmyra trees that is now being levied in the district of Tirunelveli and in certain taluks in the district of Ramanathapuram has been taken by the Madras Government. The land tax is to be so adjusted as not to exceed Rs. 2-13-0 an acre.'

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The demand to abolish the free tax was being repeatedly made in public and on the floor of the Legislature for a long time. It was represented that this tax affected the production of gur and was a heavy tax burden on co-operative societies engaged in the production of palm gur.

So, the Government have apparently announced the abolition of the tax on palmyra trees but what they have announced is that the land tax is to be so adjusted as not to exceed Rs. 2-13-0 an acre. Although the word 'adjustment' appears in the Press Note, it is not an adjustment. It is really an enhancement. Yesterday when I pointed out this aspect of the matter to the Hon. the Revenue Minister, he cited the theoretical case of a land paying Rs. 20 an acre and said that the tax would be reduced to Rs. 2-13-0 in that case. However, we have to face realities. There is no land paying Rs. 20 as land tax per acre. It is six annas an acre. The palmyra tax may be anything between one rupee and two rupees. Therefore, this apparent reduction from Rs. 20 to Rs. 2-13-0 is fictitious and the Government propose to impose an 'adjustment' tax to increase the land tax from six annas to Rs. 2-13-0 or the palmyra tax is proposed to be retained to the extent of the difference between Rs. 2-13-0 and six annas. This is not the way to implement the promise made on the floor of the House. I have often mentioned this matter and I feel that the time has come when I should ask definitely whether the Government do or do not propose to implement their original promise? (Interruption.) The Hon. the Finance Minister is asking me to go on hunger-strike. I am not threatening to go on hunger-strike but there is another thing which I can do and which I feel I am, in duty and honour, bound to do. Unless this tax is abolished and unless his proposal to impose an 'adjustment' tax is also dropped, I propose to tender my resignation of the Membership of this House. There is still time. There is a small surplus in the Budget. What is wanted is willingness. It may be that the Hon. the Finance Minister is not very sorry to lose my services in this House."

3.30
p.m.

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, on a point of order, is it parliamentary for an hon. Member to say that he will resign if a certain thing is not done by the Government? "

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" Sir, last time the hon. Member Sri S. B. Adityan said that he would not be attending this session."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I do not think the hon. Member said so."

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, I did not say so but I mentioned that I was feeling that by my being present here in this House, I was not doing any useful work. The fact is there that I have not been able to make the Government even to fulfil the promises they made. I have therefore to question myself : ' how much are my services worth? ' Unless this tax is abolished as the

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Government promised—I hope they will still do so—I propose to tender my resignation at the end of this session. As I said, the Hon. the Finance Minister may not be sorry to lose my services but he will certainly be sorry to lose the revenue from this tax. I will say to him that it is very unlikely that he will be able to realise anything from this tax even if he imposes it, for the simple reason that the people of this area will not be able to find the money to pay the tax. These are sandy tracts and even in normal times the people here find it difficult to eke out their livelihood. Although there have been rains in other areas, the rains have failed this year in this area and the condition of the people could be well imagined.

“It may be a far cry from Tirunelveli to Madras, the Capital City, a distance of about 450 miles, and I do not find that the condition of the people here is in any way better. I would ask, is the condition of the people in and around the City of Madras any the better? Are not our people living in such a state of poverty which is an unspeakable disgrace to mankind? Are not our people living in conditions of misery, squalor and distress the like of which does not exist anywhere in the world? The income of the common man in our State is one-fifteenth of the income of the average man in Britain and one-fifteenth of the income of the average man in the United States of America. If I say that our poverty-stricken youths are reduced to begging, or are induced to take to crime or are driven to commit suicide, my hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, may say that I am saying this with some motive, namely, to displace the present Government from their seats of authority. If I or the Opposition newspapers say these things, the Government may say they are lies. I would like to know what the Hon. the Finance Minister has to say to the report of the present-day conditions in Tamilnad in Kalki. I quote from the latest issue—

‘நாட்டில் பிச்சைக்காரர்களின் தொகை பெருகிவருகிறது. வறுமைக் கொடுமையினால் நடக்கும் திருட்டுகளும் அதிகமாகி வருகின்றன. வேலை கிடைக்காத காரணத்தினால் வாழ்க்கையில் வெறுப்புக்கொண்டு சின்னஞ் சிறு வாலிபர்கள் தற்கொலையில் நாட்டங்கொள்கிறார்கள். ஏழைகள் வசிக்கும் குடிசைகளைப் பார்த்தால், இவை மனிதர்கள் வசிக்கும் இடங்கள்தானா என்று எண்ணத் தோன்றுகிறது.’

This is what is written in a magazine to which the Hon. the Chief Minister is a frequent and regular contributor. It is written by a man who is one of the ardent supporters of the present Government. He has not only described the existing conditions but has also pointed the way out. He says—

‘தமிழ்நாட்டில் இப்பொழுது அறிவாளிகள் எல்லோரும் ஒருமுகமாகக் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டிய காரியம் பொருளாதார முன்னேற்றமேயாகும்.’

He says that all ways and means must be found to concentrate on the economic uplift of the people. (Interruption.) I would prefer not to be interrupted as I have very little time. Sir, the remedy is economic uplift, but, have the Government taken the proper measures in the matter? Some days ago, the Hon. the Chief Minister, speaking at the Loyola College, said: ‘I never understood economics, I do not understand it now; and I will never try

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to understand it.' It may be said that he spoke in jest but many a true word has been spoken in jest. It may be that he is quite right when he said that he knows more about men and women than about economics. But I would ask him to tell me what is the class of men that he knows. If the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Hon. the Finance Minister go anywhere in the streets of Madras and talk to the man who sits by the roadside without any employment not knowing wherefrom his next meal is going to come, and ask him, 'Why are you starving?', he will give the answer that he has no money. Men with their purses full do not leave their stomachs empty. If they put him the next question as to why he has no money, he will say that he has no employment although he is willing to do some work. Is it not the duty of a civilized Government to guarantee employment to their people? Are not other civilized Governments giving this guarantee? The hon. the Leader of the Opposition mentioned certain totalitarian Governments. Do not the Soviet Union, as well as capitalistic countries, give such guarantee? Speaking the other day, the Hon. the Chief Minister said—I am quoting from the *Mail*—'If any country is to be called cultured or civilized two things should exist. One is that people must respect their women and the other is that there should be no theft.' If our nation is to be called a civilized nation, are these the only two conditions to be fulfilled? Must not the people have food, clothing and shelter? Must not the Government guarantee education, health and employment to the people? May I ask, Sir, what have our State Government done to provide these things? What have they done to ensure employment for the adult population, both men and women? Two years ago, when the present administration took over, I am sure they had an objective. I cannot believe that a person like Sri C. Rajagopalachari would regard the attainment of power as an end in itself. He should, I think, have assumed power as a means to an end, a target or an objective. Has any progress been made towards such an objective? Are we better off now? Is there less of misery now in the country, less distress or less of unemployment? My hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, may say that we are making progress. But, this kind of slow motion progress will not satisfy a starving people. A hungry man is an angry man and an impatient man. The Government cannot satisfy his appetite with paper plans. What is wanted is industrialisation and starting of new industries to provide jobs for the people. We have reached a stage at which we must either industrialise or perish.

"The time will come sooner or later when the present administration must lay down their office and when the time comes the people will judge the Government by the extent to which they have raised the standard of living of the people and not by the extent to which they have raised their belief in God. The three crores of people in our State are watching and I am sure that when the time comes they will give correct verdict."

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* SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—“ கனம் அவைத் தலைவர் 3-40 P.m.
அவர்களே, தங்கள் அனுமதி பெற்று தமிழில் பேசுகின்றேன். வரவு செலவுத் திட்டம் சம்பந்தமாக அனேக அறிவாளிகள் பேசியுள்ளார்கள். நான் ஒரு முக்கியமான விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி பேச முன் வந்திருக்கின்றேன். அதாவது, இந்தச் சபையின் நடவடிக்கைகள் எந்த மொழியில் நடக்கின்றன என்ற ஒரு கேள்வியை மாத்திரம் நான் உங்களுடைய கவனத் திற்குக் கொண்டு வர விரும்புகின்றேன்.

“ நமது இந்திய அரசியல் சட்டத்தின் 210-வது பிரிவை நான் இப்பொழுது ஆங்கிலத்திலேயே வாசிக்கின்றேன். ஏனென்றால் அநேகர் இந்தப் பிரிவை இன்னும் கவனிக்க மல் இங்கின்றார்கள். அதாவது—

‘Article 210 (1).—Notwithstanding any thing in Part XVII, but subject to the provisions of Article 348, business in the Legislature of a State shall be transacted in the official language or languages of the State or in Hindi or in English :

Provide that the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly or Chairman of the Legislative Council, or person acting as such as the case may be, may permit any Member who cannot adequately express himself in any of the languages aforesaid to address the House in his mother-tongue.’

இந்த அரசியல் சட்டம் அமுலுக்கு வந்தது முதற்கொண்டு 15 ஆண்டுகளுக்குள்ளாக இந்த ஆங்கில மொழியானது நிலலாது நங்கிவிடும். இப்பொழுது இந்த சட்டசபையிலே நான் தமிழில் பேசுவதற்கு உரிமை இருக்கின்றதா என்று கேட்பதற்குக்கூட அஞ்சுகின்றேன். ஏனெனில், இந்த சட்டசபையில் தமிழ் மொழியானது ஆட்சிமொழியாக (Official language of the State) இருக்கவில்லை. தமிழ் மொழி ஆட்சி மொழியாக இருக்கா விட்டால், இந்த சட்டசபையிலும் தமிழில் பேச உரிமை இருக்காது. ஏன்? இப்பொழுது ஆங்கில மொழி ஒன்றுதான் அரசு மொழியாக இருக்கிறது. அதாவது (authorized language) என்ற முறையில் ஏற்பட்டு இருக்கிறது. ஆங்கிலம் மறைந்தபின், தேவநாகரி விபியிலுள்ள இந்திதான் இந்தியப் பேரரசின் ஆட்சிமொழியாக இருக்கமுடியுமே தவிர, வேறு எந்த மொழியையும் ஆட்சி மொழியாகச் செய்யவில்லை. அதைத்தான் இந்த சட்ட சபையின் கவனத் திற்குக் கொண்டு வர விரும்புகின்றேன்.

“ ஒரு மொழி ஆட்சிமொழியாக ஆகவேண்டுமென்றால், 345-வது பிரிவுப்படி அதை இந்தச் சட்டசபையில் ஆட்சி மொழியாகச் செய்விக்க வேண்டும். இந்திய அரசியல் சட்டத்தின் 345-வது பிரிவையும் நான் இப்பொழுது ஆங்கிலத்தில் படிக்கிறேன்—

‘Article 345.—Subject to the provisions of Articles 346 and 347, the Legislature of a State may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of that State.’

இங்கே நான் தமிழில் பேசுகின்றேன் என்றால் அவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களிடமிருந்து உத்தரவு வாங்கிக்கொண்டுதான் பேசவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. தாய் மொழியிலேயே ஒருவன் பேசவேண்டுமென்றால், அதற்கும் அனுமதி வாங்கிக்கொண்டுதான் பேசவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால், இது நாடு செய்த பாவமா? தமிழ் நாட்டிலுள்ள தமிழ்மக்கள் தமிழ்மொழியிலேயே அதாவது தங்கள் தாய் மொழியிலேயே, பேசாமலிருப்பது ஒரு பெரும் குறையாக இருக்கிறது. சென்னை இராஜ்யத்தில் இப்பொழுது 14 மாவட்டங்கள் வரையில் இருக்கின்றன. இந்த ராஜ்யத்தின் பெரும்பான்மையான இடங்களில் அதாவது 12 மாவட்டங்களில் தமிழ் பேசப்படுவதால், என் தமிழை ஆட்சிமொழியாக வைக்கக் கூடாது? பெரும்பான்மையான மக்கள் பேசும் ஒரு மொழியை ராஜ்யத்தின் ஆட்சிமொழியாக வைத்தால் என்ன கேடு வரும் என்று மிக வருத்தத்துடன் கேட்கிறேன்.

“ ஆந்திர மாகாணத்தில் கனம் ஸ்ரீ பிரதாசம் அவர்கள் முதல் அமைச்சராக இருக்கும்போது, அங்குள்ள நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள், வரவு செலவுத்

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திட்டத்தைச் சபை முன்சமர்ப்பிக்கும்போது தெலுங்கில் பேசினார். ஆனால், நம்முடைய தமிழ் ராஜ்யத்திலே, ஆந்திர ராஜ்ய நிதி அமைச்சருக்கு இருக்கும் தாய் மொழிப்பற்றும், அந்தமொழியில் வரவுசெலவுத் திட்டத்தை சமர்ப்பிக்கும் திறனும் இல்லையென்று சொல்ல முடியுமா? நமது நிதி மந்திரி கனம் ஸ்ரீ சுப்ரமணியம் அவர்கள் எல்லா நலன்களும் பெற்று இருக்கிறார். என் நம்முடைய வரவுசெலவுத்திட்டத்தை தமிழில் சொல்வதற்கு உற்சாகம் அவருக்கு இல்லை என்று கேட்க ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். ஆந்திரத்தில் ஒரு வில்வநாதம் அவர்கள் வரவு செலவுத்திட்டத்தைத் தெலுங்கில் சொல்ல உற்சாகமும், மொழிப்பற்றும், நாட்டுப்பற்றும் இருக்கும்போது, நம்முடைய நாட்டில் அந்த மாதிரியான ஒரு உணர்ச்சி இல்லாமலிருப்பதைக் கண்டு கவலைப்படுகின்றேன்.

“வழக்கு மன்றத்தில் தமிழில் நடவடிக்கைகள் நடக்கின்றன என்று சொல்லலாம். அங்கு தமிழில் நடக்கிறது என்று சொன்னால், அது ஒரு சரியான வழியில் இல்லை. 348-வது பிரிவு சொல்வதாவது—

‘Article 348 (2).—Notwithstanding anything in sub-clause (a) of Clause (1), the Governor or Rajpramukh of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of the Hindi language, or any other language used for any official purposes of the State, in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State.’

ஆகையால், நீதி மன்றங்களிலே ஒரு மொழியில் நடவடிக்கைகள் நடைபெறுவதற்கு அந்த மொழி ஆட்சி மொழியாக இருத்தல்வேண்டும். இந்தச் சட்டசபையில் தமிழ் ஆட்சிமொழியாக இருந்தால்தான் தமிழில் பேச உரிமையுண்டு. இரண்டு கருத்துக்களை மட்டும்தான் சட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகின்றேன். இங்கு அங்கத்தினர்கள் எதற்காகப் பேசுகின்றார்கள்? இங்கு பேசுவதையெல்லாம் நாட்டு மக்கள் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். அதற்காகத்தான் நாம் இங்கு பேசுகின்றோம். நானும் ஆங்கிலம் படித்து இருக்கின்றேன். ஜம்பத்தைந்தாவது வயது வரையில் ஆங்கிலத்திலேயே பேசியும் எழுதியும் தலைமொட்டையாகக்கூட ஆகிவிட்டது. ஆங்கிலம் எனக்கு பேசத் தெரியாது என்பதற்காகத் தமிழில் பேசவில்லை. நாம் இங்கு பேசுவது யாருக்காக? நமக்காகவா? நாட்டு மக்களுக்காகவா? அதைத் தான் இந்தச் சட்டசபையின் கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டுவர விரும்புகின்றேன்.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“இங்கு நடக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகளைப் பொதுமக்கள் பத்திரிகைகளின் மூலமாகத் தானே தெரிந்துகொள்கிறார்கள்?”

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—“நாம் தமிழில் பேசினால்தான் தமிழ் மக்கள் புரிந்து கொள்வதற்கு முடியும். தமிழ்மொழிக்கு உயிர் இருக்கிறது. தமிழ் மொழியில் பேசினால், அதை மக்கள் நன்கு புரிந்து கொள்கிறார்கள். ஆங்கிலத்திலேயே நடவடிக்கைகள் இருந்தால் மக்கள் அதை எப்படி நன்கு புரிந்துகொள்ள முடியும்? அதனால்தான் நம் நாடு முன்னுக்கு வரவில்லை. ஆகையால் முதன் முதலில் சட்டசபையில் தாய் மொழியில்தான் பேசவேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு வரையரை இருக்கவேண்டும். இங்கு பேசும் மொழிமக்கள் மொழி யாகத்தான் இருக்கவேண்டும். குடியாட்சி இருக்கவேண்டுமானால் குடிகளின் மொழியாட்சி இருக்கவேண்டும் என்பதை உணரவேண்டும். அதற்காகத்தான் இதைச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். கனம் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது இங்கில்லாவிட்டாலும், முதல் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு வலது கைபோல் இங்கிருக்கும் கனம் நிதி அமைச்சர் ஸ்ரீ சுப்ரமணியம் அவர்கள் நான் சொல்லும் குறைகளை அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துச்சொல்லுவார்கள் என்று நம்புகின்றேன்.

“இந்த வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கல்வி விஷயமாக நான் சொல்லவேண்டியது ஒன்று. ஆரம்பக் கல்வியானது 5 முதல் 12 வயது வரையிலுள்ள இளம் குழந்தைகளுக்குக் அளிக்கப்படுகிறது. அது சம்பந்தமாக பருலேகர் கமிட்டி குழந்தை

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தைகள் தங்கள் தாய்மொழியிலேயே கற்கவேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்து கின்றது. ஆகையால் தமிழ் நாட்டில் ஆரம்பக் கல்வியானது பிள்ளைகளுக்கு அவர்களுடைய தாய் மொழியாகிய தமிழ் மொழியில்தான் இருக்கவேண்டு மென்று நான் வற்புறுத்துகிறேன். குழந்தைகள் சிறு வயதில் தாய் மொழியில் பயின்றால்தான் அவர்கள் முதலில் நன்கு பயிற்சி பெற்று பிறகு படிப்படியாக எந்த மொழியையும் கற்றுக்கொள்ளக்கூடிய ஒரு ஆற்றலைப் பெறுவார்கள்.

“ஆனால், ‘Report of the Committee on Elementary Education in Madras’ என்னும் புத்தகத்தில் 12-வது பக்கத்தில் என்ன சொல்லியிருக்கிற தென்றால்—

‘It may be seen from the above table that the total periods for the 10 subjects indicated on page 7 of the Guide Book on the old basis will come to 23 periods. We have, therefore, in column III suggested a slight modification to restrict the number to 21 periods in the case of standards, I and II and 22 periods for standards III to V so that some time may be available for optional subjects. These two extra periods thus made available may be utilised, as before, for teaching an additional language (other than English).’

கனம் நிதி, கல்வி அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் இதைக் கவனிக்குமாறு கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். துவக்கத்தில் தாய் மொழியில் கல்வி கற்பிக்கும்போது விருப்பப்பாடம் (optional subject) என்று ஏதாவது உண்டா என்று கேட் கின்றேன். அம்மாதிரி எங்கும் இல்லையே. மேலும் ‘as before’ என்று கண்டிருக்கிறது. துவக்கக் கல்வி இளம் குழந்தைகள் படிக்கும்போது அவர்கள் தாய் மொழியில்தான் இருக்கும். வேறு ஒரு விருப்பு மொழி ஆங்கிலம் இல்லாத மொழியென்றால் அது இந்தி மொழியாகத் தான் இருக்கும். 20 பீரியட்டுகளில் படிக்க வேண்டியதில் 3 பீரியட்டுகள் இந்தி மொழிக்கு வைத்தால், ஒரு குழந்தை தன் தாய் மொழியைக் கற்கமுடியுமா? அல்லது இந்தி மொழியைக் கற்கமுடியுமா? எனது நண்பர் கனம் டாக்டர் லக்ஷ்மணஸ்வாமி முதலியார் அவர்கள் சொல்வார்கள். மற்ற உலகப் பிரசித்தப்பெற்றவர்கள் சொல்லுவார்கள். ஐந்து வயதிற்கு மேற் பட்ட சிறு குழந்தைகள் ஒரு மொழியில் தான் கல்வி கற்க வேண்டும். இரண்டு மொழியில் கற்பிப்பது சரியல்ல. ஆங்கில ஆட்சி இருக்கும்போது ஆங்கில பாஷையைக் கற்பிக்க ‘ஆப்ஷனல்’ என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். ‘ஆப்ஷனல்’ என்று சொன்னாலும், ‘கட்டாயம்’ என்ற பொருளில்தான் நடைமுறையில் வந்துவிடுகிறது. ஏனென்றால், ஆங்கிலம் அப்பொழுது ஆட்சிமொழியாக இருந்ததினால் ஆங்கிலம் கட்டாயமாகத்தான் இருந்துவந்தது. ஆகவே, நான் சொல்வது இப்பொழுது முதல் வகுப்பு முதல் 5-வது வகுப்பு வரை தமிழிலேயே கற்றுக்கொடுங்கள். 5-வது வரை கற்றுக்கொண்டுவிட்டால் தமிழ் மொழிப் பயிற்சி நன்கு ஏற்பட்டுவிடும். பிறகு இந்தி அல்ல, ஆங்கிலம் அல்ல பல்வேறு மொழிகளை மாணவன் கற்க சக்தி ஏற்பட்டுவிடும். ஆகையால், குழந்தைகளுடைய படிப்பு சம்பந்த மாக சமூகம் செய்யாமல் ஒரு மொழிப்படிப்பு ஏற்பாட்டைச் செய்ய வேண்டு மென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“தமிழ் மொழியை ஆட்சிமொழியாக வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கும் போது, நான் சட்டப் பிரகாரம் கேட்கின்றேன். அதற்காக ஒரு தமிழ் மொழி ஆட்சி மகாநாடு 1953-ம் ஆண்டு டிசம்பர் மீ 20-ல் சென்னை அண்ணாமலை மன்றத்தில் நடந்தது. மகாநாட்டின் தீர்மானங்களை எடுத்துரைக்க ஒரு குழு ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டது. ஆனால் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் குழுவினைப் பார்க்க மறுத்துவிட்டார். பரவாயில்லை. மறுநாள் அவர் ஒரு அறிக்கை விட்டிருக் கிறார், ‘திருச்சியில் நாங்கள் ஒரு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறோம். அந்த ஜில்லா லில் தமிழ் மொழி மூலமாக நடக்கும் அலுவல்கள், அதாவது சர்க்கார் அலுவலகங்களில் எந்த முறையில் பயன்படுத்தித் தரப்படுத்தப்பற்றி யோசனை பண்ணப்போகிறோம்’ என்று இருந்தது. அந்த அறிக்கையைப் பார்த்தவுடனே நான் மனம் நொந்தேன். சட்டப் பிரகாரம் தமிழ் மொழி ஆட்சி மொழியாகக் கட்டப்படாமல், திருச்சி ஜில்லாவில் எந்த சட்டத்தையொட்டி,

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இந்தப் பரிசோதனை? அதற்காக ஏதாவது சட்டதிட்டங்கள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்களா? ஆண்டுதோறும் அதன் வளர்ச்சியைப்பற்றி அறிக்கைவிட்டார்களா? அந்த ஜில்லாவுக்கு எந்த கலெக்டர்களைப் போட்டார்கள்? அவர்கள் தமிழ் தெரிந்த கலெக்டர்கள்தானா? தமிழ் தெரிந்த கலெக்டர்களை ஏன் போடவில்லை? ஒரு ஜில்லாவில் தமிழ் மொழியை ஆட்சிமொழியாகச் சட்டப்பிரகாரம் செய்யாமல், அதனை வளர்க்கவும் செய்யாமல் தமிழ் மொழியைப் பற்றி குறைகூறுவது சரியல்ல. தமிழ் மொழியை முதல் படியில் சட்டப்படி ஆட்சிமொழியாக்கவேண்டும். பிறகு அதற்கு ஒரு திட்டம் போடவேண்டும். அந்தத் திட்டத்தை நன்முறையில் கையாளவேண்டும். அப்படியிருக்க, திருச்சி ஜில்லாவில் யாதொரு முன்னேற்பாடும் உதவியும் செய்யாமல், தமிழ் மொழி உதவாது என்று ஏனெனம் செய்யக்கூடாது.

“இப்பொழுது ஆங்கிலம் படித்தவர்கள் உத்தியோகத்தில் இருப்பதால் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் குற்றம் குறைகள் இருந்துவருகின்றன. ஆனால், மக்கள் மொழியில், அதாவது தமிழ் மொழியில் ஆட்சி நடத்தப்படுமானால், பெரும்பான்மை செலவும் இருக்காது. மக்கள் நேரடியாக எல்லாம் கற்றுக் கொள்வார்கள். மனுக்களை இன்னொருவர் எழுதிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டிய தொந்தரவும் இருக்காது. கிராமத்தார்களுக்கு ஒரு மதிப்பும் இருக்கும், ஏனென்றால், அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய குறைகளை அவர்களே, அவர்களுடைய மொழியிலேயே, அரசாங்கத்திற்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லலாம். மக்களுக்கும் அரசாங்கத்திற்கும் இடையே ஆங்கில மொழி இருப்பதனால், அவர்கள் தங்கள் மொழியில் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல இயலாதவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். இதை அரசாங்கத்தார் கவனிக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“அரசாங்கத்தார் சேர்ந்தாற்போல் நிறைய கடன் வாங்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தக் கடனை பார்க்கும்போது, 1.40-ம் ஆண்டு முதற்கொண்டு 1951-ம் ஆண்டு வரையில் 3%, 3½%, 4% வட்டிக்கும் கடன் வாங்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கடன் வாங்கினார்களே, எதற்காக என்று கேட்டால், நீர்ப்பாசனம், மின்சாரம் முதலிய தனி வசதிகளைச் செய்வதற்காக என்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கடன்களுக்கு வட்டி மாததும் 17 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் ஆகிறதே, அதற்காக என்ன செய்யப் போகிறார்கள் என்று பொது மக்கள் கேட்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சொல்வதுபோல் அபிவிருத்தி வரி (betterment tax) போட்டு, இந்தச் செலவை எல்லோருக்கும் பங்கிட்டுக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஜெயந்தார் ஒழிப்பு செய்தார்கள். கோடி கோடி ரூபாய் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுத்தார்கள், இதை மக்களுக்கும் பணம் கொடுத்தார்கள். என்ன கடன் வாங்கினாலும் நிலச் சுவாந்தார்களுக்குத் தான் கொடுக்கின்றார்கள். ஏழை மக்களுக்காக ஒன்றும் கொடுக்கக் காணோம். ஆகையால், ஏழை மக்களுக்கு தனிச் சலுகையாக 5 ஏக்கர், 10 ஏக்கர் நிலம் கொடுத்து, மேலும் கூட்டுறவு பண்ணைகள் மூலமாக அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டியவையெல்லாம் கிடைக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

“கனம் நில மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆத்தூரில், 80 ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர் வரையில் நல்ல நிலம் இருக்கிறது, அதில் நிலமில்லாத ஏழை மக்கள் பயிர் செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்போகிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார். நாங்கள் அத்திட்டத்தை ஏற்கவேற்கின்றோம். ஒரு உழவனுக்கு 5 ஏக்கர் நிலமாவது சொந்தம் என்று இருந்தால் தான் அவனுக்கு மதிப்பு இருக்கும். ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர்களுக்கு மேல் பெரிய பணக்காரர்கள் நிலம் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆனால், அவர்கள் பயிர் செய்வதில் ஊக்கம் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களா? பயிர் நன்கு உண்டாக்கத்தக்க செலவும் செய்யவில்லையே. இதனை அரசியலார் கவனிக்கவேண்டும்.

“கடைசியாக, ஜெயில் விஷயத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்வோம். முன்னே ஆங்கில கவர்ன்மெண்டு இருந்தபோது, ஒரு ஜெயிலிலிருந்து இன்னொரு ஜெயிலுக்கு சாதாரணமாக ஒரு கைதியை மாற்றமாட்டார்கள். முன்னடியாக, கவர்ன்மெண்டு உத்தரவு வாங்கியே மாற்றுவார்கள். அது நியாயம், இப்பொழுது நடப்பது என்னவென்றால், ஜெயிலில் இடம் இல்லையென்று நினைத்தபடியெல்லாம், கலெக்டர்கள் மாற்றிக் கொண்டே

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இருக்கிறார்கள். இது மிகவும் கொடுமை. கடலூர் சிறையிலிருந்து வேலூர் சிறைக்கு மாற்றினால், அவனுக்கு தக்கபடி உதவி செய்ய வழி இல்லாமல் போகிறது. மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறான். இந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை உண்டாக்காமலிருக்க அரசியலாரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ முக்கியமாக, நான் இப்பொழுது பேச முன் வந்தது மொழி சம்பந்தமாகத்தான். அதாவது, நம் தமிழ் நாட்டிலே மக்களாகிய நாம் எல்லோரும் நன்றாக வாழவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால், தமிழ் மொழி ஆட்சி மொழியாக வரவேண்டும். அப்பொழுது தான் குழந்தைகள் தாய் மொழியாகிய தமிழ் மொழியில் கல்வி கற்பதற்கும், மக்கள் தங்களுடைய குறைகளை அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தமிழ் மொழியில் எடுத்துச் சொல்லி, குறைகளைப் போக்கிக்கொள்ளுவதற்கும், உண்மையாகவே மக்கள் அரசாங்கத்தில் பங்கு எடுத்துக் கொள்வதற்கும் உபயோகமாக இருக்கும். ஆகவே, இதைப்பற்றி கனம் நிதி அமைச்சர் ஸ்ரீ வி. சுப்ரமணியம் அவர்கள் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்து, நன்றாக கவந்து ஆலோசித்து, கனம் நிதி அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விவாதத்திற்கு பதிலளிக்கும்போது, தமிழ் மொழியிலேயே பதில் சொல்வார்களேயானால், உண்மையிலேயே நான் பெருமைப்படவேண்டும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு, அனைத்து தலைவர் இந்தச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தை எனக்கு அளித்ததற்காக அருக்கு என்னுடைய வணக்கத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு, என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not going to deal with the details of the Budget presented before the House as the Hon. Minister in charge of Finance has himself said that we shall have another opportunity to discuss policies almost immediately when the Budget for the year 1954-55 comes up before the House towards the end of February 1954, and therefore we may not spend much time over the details of the present Budget, but that fact, however, does not prevent us from drawing the attention of the Government specially with regard to food-front, the modified scheme of elementary education, the latest demand for single point levy of sales tax, rural medical relief, and the new Ordinance to provide temporary relief to indebted agriculturists, and in this connection I do not propose to take much of the time of the House.

“ Sir, the policy of derationing which has been introduced by the Hon. the Chief Minister has been widely welcomed, acclaimed and copied by all the other States in the Indian Union. And in the wake of the sister State of Andhra removing all controls and preferring trade at State to State level, much apprehension has been caused in the minds of many about speculation and shooting up of prices to the detriment of the interests of the middle class groups and labourers. I appreciate the farsightedness of our Government in doing away with the present zonal system and permitting the free flow of food grains from prosperous districts to deficit districts within Tamilnad, barring the districts of Malabar and South Kanara. (At this stage the Deputy Chairman occupied the Chair.) In North Arcot on the borders of Salem where smuggling and black-marketing prevailed, the lifting of the zonal system has led to a rush of merchants from that end to buy grains in our district (North Arcot). Consequently prices have temporarily risen. I trust this would only be a passing phase and as a result of inter-action of supply and demand, prices will settle down

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at the normal level. With regard to the position in South Kanara and Malabar districts as a result of the removal of the food zones, the hon. Member from Malabar district Sri M. P. Govinda Menon said that the price of rice in those districts is going up, but I think it will not be so”

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ Under the new orders, Malabar as a separate zone is retained.”

* DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ If Malabar is thrown open with regard to movement of food grains, the Government apprehended that there would be smuggling of foodgrains into the neighbouring State of Travancore-Cochin and it was therefore only after due consideration that the Government have decided that Malabar should be constituted as a separate zone. This arrangement will benefit the people of Malabar itself.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ May I ask the hon. Member whether the neighbouring State of Travancore-Cochin into which food-grains are smuggled is inside the Indian Union or outside the Indian Union? ”

4 p.m. * DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—“ It is inside the Indian Union. But the difficulty is we have to safeguard the interests of the deficit districts in our own State, and therefore we cannot afford to allow foodgrains to be smuggled. I am sure, as a result of interaction of supply and demand prices are bound to fall and settle down at the normal level. I consider the levy of betterment charges for providing increased facilities for irrigation as reasonable and sound. At the same time looking at it from the point of view of the payer, in deficit areas, not to mention the droughtridden districts, it would be most unwelcome. It may even be considered as a hardship. On that account such deficit and droughtridden districts should not be neglected. We cannot deny them irrigational facilities. In this connection I would like to urge upon the Government to re-open the question of the Palar Irrigation scheme with the Mysore Government. I know our district had been dry for the past six years. Recently after the visit of Rajaji, we have had the unusual spectacle of rains for nearly one month. Of course the hon Member Mr. Govinda Menon mentioned that after the visit of Rajaji to his place, not a drop of rain fell in his district. I can only say that it is his misfortune. I congratulate the Hon. Chief Minister. His visit has created an exception in the history of North Arcot. After his visit, the Palar river which had been dry for the past six years flowed with full water at a height of 4½ feet. After all our pangs and sorrows for the last six years, that rain was quite welcome. If such periodical rains occur, I am sure my district in course of time would cease to be a dry district. But that cannot be definitely foreseen. It is absolutely essential that to increase the fertility of North Arcot, the Palar irrigation scheme should be completed in co-operation with the Mysore Government. If water is let from the Bethamangalam reservoir in the Kolar Gold Fields instead of harnessing the entire waters, the citizens of North

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Arcot will be prosperous and the stigma of North Arcot being dubbed 'deficit district' may well be wiped out. Recently an incident occurred. For fear that the tank may get breached, the Mysore people let out water from the Bethamangalam tank recently. Water flowed through Palar and all our tanks were full for more than a month. I would request the Madras Government to move the Centre, get into agreement with the sister Mysore Government and implement the Palar irrigation scheme. After all both the States of Madras and Mysore are governed only by one Constitution and I do not think it would be very difficult to reach an agreement with Mysore in this regard. Looking at the Five-Year Plan, I find that barring the Sathanur project, which is going to help only a corner of North Arcot, there is no big project under contemplation for North Arcot. Government should proceed in right earnest with the execution of the Palar irrigation scheme. That is the only way by which they can bring succour to North Arcot. In addition the following works may also be taken up. The construction of a dam in Kuppam in the Palar basin may be taken up immediately. Construction of a dam across the Goddar near Pernambut in North Arcot would not only provide water-supply to the Pernambut Panchayat but prove to be a great blessing for cultivation purposes too. I hope Government would immediately attend to the repairs of Vinnamangalam and Pernankuppam tanks in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district. These tanks are very badly in need of repairs. The Hon. Revenue Minister has promised to attend to the repairs. I hope the repairs would be attended to at an early date.

"Sir, the Agriculturists' Indebtedness Relief Ordinance has been hailed as a boon from many a quarter. But it is not without opposition from some quarters. Yet what measure has not been opposed for political stunts and selfish ends so far? The Ordinance is no exception. There are some critics who say that credit facilities would freeze for the cultivators as a result of this Ordinance. I say that such a conclusion is only misreading the problem. As I view it, the Ordinance does not prevent in any way the normal channels of transactions. It does not prevent the good agriculturist who is a good payer of debts too, to raise a debt whenever he wants it because he is sure to repay it in regular instalments. It is only to help the agriculturists who have gone through the ordeal of continued droughts, this Ordinance is intended. If the agrarian situation becomes worse during the following year due to the harassment of the money-lender the poor cultivator has to resort to the underselling of his hard-earned produce. To those poor cultivators this Ordinance is a boon. I would like to mention one more particular point in this connection. I heartily congratulate the Government for staying the execution of Court decrees and impending money suits. It is but fair that they also suspend the collection of agricultural loans such as loans advanced for buying seeds, bulls, manure, agricultural implements, etc. In this connection I would like to say a word about the co-operative societies. They also

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should not insist on the repayment of loans during the period the stay of execution of decrees order of Government is in force. More often than not the poor cultivators are put to all sorts of trouble by these co-operative societies for repayment of their dues. I hope Government would carefully consider my request and help the poor cultivators.

"I shall now come to another matter. The Government advance Rs. 2,500 for the erection of a Filter Point. But they insist that the entire amount must be utilised for the purchase of the engine."

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The hon. Member's time is up."

* DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—"I want some ten more minutes, Sir. I have got several points to cover."

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The hon. Member has already taken 15 minutes. I shall allow only two or three minutes more."

* DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—"Besides insisting that the entire amount must be utilised for the purchase of the engine, Government further stipulate the condition that the poor agriculturist has to raise the fund required for installing the necessary pump and other agricultural implements. This puts the agriculturist to unnecessary hardship. The cultivators may be saved from incurring more debts, if the Government were kind enough to permit the landowners to instal a five horse power engine at a cost of Rs. 1,200 and allow the balance for the purchase of other requirements. Such a concession would go a long way in effecting an amicable settlement between the landlord and the cultivator and also incidentally help the poor cultivator.

"Coming to the new elementary education scheme . . ."

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The hon. Member's time is up."

* DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—"I shall try to finish, Sir. The new elementary education scheme has had mixed reception in this House as well as outside. Much has been said for and against the scheme. Sir, it should not be forgotten that even in great countries such bold reforms have been introduced and our reform is one such. Countries have been made by bold reformers and our Rajaji is one such reformer. It should be remembered in this connection that the Hon. the Chief Minister had told us last time that he would be perfectly prepared to retrace his steps is only it was pointed out that this scheme would not be a beneficial one for the people. But what is it that we find to-day? Unnecessary prejudices have been brought into play thus blinding reason. It is a sad spectacle to find that even amongst the members of the party in power, there are critics of the scheme. I am sorry that they are doing so without realizing the good that the scheme would do for the State as a whole. But one point should be noted in this regard. While I am in agreement with the salient features

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of the scheme, I want to lay particular stress on one important point, viz., the increased remuneration for the teachers, on whose shoulders the success or the failure of the scheme depends. I am in entire agreement with the sentiments so eloquently expressed by my hon. Friend Mr. G. Krishnamoorthy, who pleaded for the enhancement of salaries of teachers. I am sorry that some people have been looking at this scheme in a sarcastic manner. It is rather a sad spectacle to find newspapers publishing false reports about reactions of some hon. Members regarding this scheme. Recently myself and a colleague of mine in the Congress Party addressed a meeting near our place. While I spoke supporting the scheme my friend criticized it, though he belonged to the same party. In one of the newspapers it was published as though I condemned the scheme. Such a state of affairs should be put an end to. I once again plead that the teachers should be paid more salaries. In fact the Parulekar Committee had suggested an increase in the salaries of the teachers. Unless the teachers have the will and enthusiasm the results may not be up to the expected standard. If we increase their salaries it would give the teachers an incentive and they would do their work with more enthusiasm. In this connexion, I would also dispute the statement made by some partymen that the attendance in schools have gone down as a result of the scheme and that the attendance is on the increase only on Vijayadasami day. What are all these? I know that the attendance is remaining the same and is maintaining the same level as it was before. Such sort of spreading deliberate lies by some newspapers should be put an end to.

“One word more, Sir. Coming to the levy of sales tax, Government say that single levy may be allowed on some articles but the existing multi-point levy might continue on other articles, so as to prevent evasion. I would plead for more vigilance and stricter supervision by Government against evasion of tax and at the same time Government would do well, no matter whether they impose a slight increase in the levy, to collect the sales tax at a single point on all articles rather than collecting the same at multi-points. I hope Government would accept my advice and levy the sales tax at a single point. So, I commend this budget to this House.”

SRI S. O. S. P. ODAYAPPA :—“கனம் உப தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த ஆறு மாத பட்ஜெட்டை மிகவும் திறம்படத் தயாரித்திருக்கிறார்கள். முழு வருஷ பட்ஜெட் தயாரிப்பதைவிட ஆறு மாத பட்ஜெட் தயாரிப்பது தான் கொஞ்சம் சிரமம். அதிலும் 10, 12 ஜில்லாக்கள் பிரிந்த பிறகு இருக்கும் ஜில்லாக்களை ஒன்றாகச் சேர்த்து தயாரிப்பது மிகவும் கஷ்டம். அது பாராட்டத் தக்கது. அதிலும் இப்பொழுது உபரி பட்ஜெட்டை காண்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். பொதுவாக கம்பெனிகளோ அல்லது சொந்த வியாபாரிகளோ பட்ஜெட் தயாரித்தால் அது லாபகரமாகத் தான் இருக்கும். ஆனால் சர்க்கார் தயாரிக்கும் பட்ஜெட்களில் பெரும்பாலும் surplus வருவது இல்லை. அப்படி வருவதும் வழக்கம் இல்லை என்று நினைக்கிறேன். வருவாயைக்கொண்டு அதிகம் செலவு செய்வதுதான் சர்க்கார் செய்யவேண்டியது. அதனால் உபரி பட்ஜெட் காண்பித்ததில் அவ்விதம் பாராட்ட முடியாது.

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“இந்த பட்ஜெட்டில் பல முக்கியமான விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி பேசவேண்டும் என்று எண்ணிக்கொண்டிருந்தேன். ஆனால் நேரம்

[Sri S. O. S. P. Odayappa] [31st December 1953]

நெருக்கிக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறது. பத்து நிமிஷ நேரத்தில் பலவற்றைப்பற்றி பேச முடியாவிட்டாலும் குறிப்பாக சிலவற்றைப்பற்றி மட்டும் பேசலாம் என்று இருக்கிறேன். இப்பொழுது குறிப்பாக அணைக்கட்டு திட்டங்கள், மின்சார விஸ்தரிப்பு முதலிய திட்டங்கள் இதில் காணப்படுகின்றன. அதிலும் மிக மிக மகிழ்ச்சி கொடுக்கக்கூடியது இந்த வைகை அணைக்கட்டு திட்டம் இருப்பது. அந்த அணைக்கட்டைக் கொண்டு வந்ததற்கு மதுரை, ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாக்களிலுள்ள மக்கள் ஒரு பக்கம் சந்தோஷப்பட்டுக்கொண்டும் மற்றொரு பக்கம் பயப்பட்டுக்கொண்டும் இருக்கிறார்கள். இதைப்பற்றி பத்திரிகைகளில் படித்து இருக்கலாம். ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள பெரும்பான்மையான தாலுகா மக்கள் இந்த வைகை அணைக்கட்டு திட்டம் அவசியம்தான் அதனால் அவர்களுக்கு பாதகம் ஏற்படுமோ என்று பயந்து கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் கொஞ்சம் நியாயம் இருக்கிறது. ஏற்கனவே வைகையில் பேரணைக்கட்டு போட்டதால் பெரியாற்று காலில் தண்ணீர் கொஞ்சம் போய்விட்டது. ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா பரமக்குடி, சிவகங்கை பகுதிகளுக்குப் போன நீர் இப்பொழுது குறைந்துவிட்டது. இதற்கு முன் வைகையானது ஒரு ஜீவநதியாக இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது அதை தண்ணீர் இல்லாத நதி என்று கேலியாகச் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைக்கு பேரணைக்கட்டு தான் காரணம். இப்பொழுது இந்த அணைக்கட்டு வருவதால் அவர்களுக்கு பாதகம் விளைவிக்குமோ என்று பயப்படுவதில் நியாயம் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் சில பொறுப்புள்ள மந்திரிகள் அவ்விதம் இல்லை என்று வாக்குறுதி கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஏற்கனவே மராமத்து மந்திரியாக இருந்த கனம் ஸ்ரீ பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் ஒரு முறை இதைப்பற்றி விஸ்தாரமாகப் பேசி சில மகநாடுகளில் வாக்குறுதி அளித்திருக்கிறார். அதாவது ஒரு சொட்டு தண்ணீர்கூட வைகைக்கு வருவதை நாங்கள் தடுக்கவில்லை என்று. அந்தத் தண்ணீர் தராளமாக போன பிறகு மேற்கொண்டு இருக்கிற பகுதிக்கு அதாவது புஞ்சை நிலங்களை நஞ்சையாக ஆக்குவதற்கு அதைக் கொண்டு போகிறோம் என்று வாக்குறுதி கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரியாக இருக்கும் ராமநாதபுரம் ராஜா அவர்களும் இவ்விதம் சொல்லியுள்ளார். அநேகம் இடங்களிலும் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். சட்டசபையிலும் சொல்லி இருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. இந்த மாதிரி மாமூலாக வந்த தண்ணீரை தடுக்கவில்லை என்று உறுதி கூறுகிறார்கள். பொதுவாக மீதமுள்ள தண்ணீர் அப்பால் போவதைக் கொடுப்பதாகத் தான் சொன்னார்கள். அது சந்தோஷமான காரியம். ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிலிருந்தும் மதுரையிலிருந்தும் மந்திரிகள் வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவதாகத் தெரியும். கனம் ஸ்ரீ ராமநாதபுரம் ராஜா மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரியாக இருக்கிறார், மற்றொருவர் திருமங்கலத்திலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார். அவர் கனம் ஸ்ரீ ராஜாராம் நாயுடு. இருவரும் போட்டியிடவோ, சண்டை போட்டுக்கொள்ளவோ வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லவில்லை. எது நியாயமாக அதைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்கள் செய்வார்கள் என்ற பூர்ண நம்பிக்கையுடன் இருக்கிறேன். திருமங்கலம் தாலுகாவில் உள்ள புஞ்சை நிலங்களை யெல்லாம் நஞ்சையாக்குவதற்கு முயற்சி செய்கிறார்கள். புஞ்சை நிலங்களை யெல்லாம் நஞ்சையாக்குவதில் எனக்குச் சந்தோஷம் உண்டு. ஆனால் ஏற்கனவே மாமூலாக தரிசாகக் கிடந்த இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா நஞ்சை நிலங்கள் தண்ணீரின் பிற் புஞ்சைமாதிரி இருக்கவேண்டுமா என்பதுதான் தெரியவில்லை. இது நியாயமாக இருக்கிறதா? ஏற்கனவே புஞ்சையாக இருக்கும் நிலங்களை, புதிதாக நஞ்சையாக்குவது என்பது நியாயமா? இது எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் பின்னவரம் கேட்கப்போக எப்படியோ முடிந்தது மாதிரி இருக்கிறது. அணைக்கட்டு வரவேண்டியது தான். ஆனால் மாமூலாக இருக்கும் நஞ்சை நிலங்களுக்கு பாதகமாக வரக்கூடாது. சாப்பாடு இல்லாதவனுக்கு சாப்பாடு போடவேண்டியதுதான். ஆனால் சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவனுக்கு சாப்பாடு இல்லை என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. ஆகவே, ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா மக்களுக்கு கொடுப்பதோடு மதுரை ஜில்லா மக்களுக்கு இல்லாமல் செய்யக்கூடாது என்ற வேண்டுகோளை விடுகிறேன். புதிதாக புஞ்சை நிலங்களை நஞ்சையாக மாற்றுவதற்கு முயற்சி செய்துகொண்டு இருக்கும்போது ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா வட

31st December 1953] [Sri S. O. S. P. Odayappa]

பகுதியில் திருமங்கலம், சிவகங்கை, திருப்பத்தூர் முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் தண்ணீரை தாராளமாக விட உதவிசெய்யவேண்டும். அதுதான் என்னுடைய வேண்டுகோள்.

“இப்பொழுது அநேகம் கண்மாய்கள் சுத்தம் செய்யப்படாமல் இருக்கின்றன. இப்பொழுது ஏராளமாக மழை பெய்து எல்லா கண்மாய்களும் நிறைந்து இருக்கின்றன என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் எல்லா இடங்களிலும் ஏராளமாக மழை பெய்யவில்லை. எங்கள் ஜில்லா ஸ்ரீவில்லிபுத்தூரில் மழை பெய்யவில்லை. கண்மாய்களில் தண்ணீர் இல்லை. மழை பெய்தாலும் கண்மாயில் தண்ணீர் தேங்குவதற்கு வசதி இல்லை. எல்லா கண்மாய்களும் மர மத்து செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கின்றன. அது மிக மிக முக்கியம்.

“மேலும், விவசாய இலாகாவைப் பற்றி நமது கனம் அங்கத்தினர் பழையகோட்டை பட்டயக்காரர் கூறினார். அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்ட் ஆபீசர்கள் எத்தகை இருக்கிறார்களோ தெரியவில்லை. மழை பெய்ததெயொழிய நோயினாலும் பூச்சிகளாலும் பயிர்கள் கெட்டுப்போய்விட்டன. இதைப்பற்றி விவசாய ஆபீசர்களிடம் சொன்னால் அவர்கள் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்றால் “நங்களே ஏதாவது செய்து கொள்ளுங்கள்” என்று சொல்லுகிறார். அவர்கள் வந்து பயிர்களை உவனிய்ப்பது இல்லை. ஒன்று அந்த விவசாய டிபார்ட்மெண்ட் அதிகாரிகள் விவசாயிகளுக்கு அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய உதவி செய்யவேண்டும், இல்லாவிட்டால் இந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டை ஒழித்துவிட வேண்டும். அதனால் பணமாவது மிச்சப்படும். அவர்களை எடுத்துவிட்டு திறம்பட பயிர் செய்பவர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு விவசாயம் செய்யலாம். பட்டயக்காரர்களைப்போல் பலர் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதாவது 11 ஆயிரம் பவுண்டு, 12 ஆயிரம் பவுண்டு உற்பத்தி செய்கிறேன் என்று சொல்லிச் சாதிப்பவர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் மூலமாக பிரசாரம் செய்து விவசாயத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யலாம். அதனால் அநேக சனகர்யங்கள் ஏற்படும். உணவு உற்பத்தி பெருக்கவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். உணவு உற்பத்தியும் ஓரளவு பெருகி இருக்கிறது. விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு முயற்சி செய்யும்போது மற்ற விவசாயிகள் உயர்ந்து இருக்கிறது. உரத்தின் விலை உயர்ந்து இருக்கிறது. மற்ற விவசாயக் கருவிகளின் விலை உயர்ந்து இருக்கிறது. புண்ணுக்கு விலை உயர்ந்து இருக்கிறது. அமோனியம் சல்பேட் விலையும் உயர்ந்து இருக்கிறது. நெல்விலை 10, 12 என்று இருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலையில் அபிவிருத்தி எப்படிச் செய்ய முடியும்? அதற்கு கவர்ன்மெண்ட் ஏதாவது subsidy கொடுத்து encourage செய்ய வேண்டும். நோய் பரவாமல் தடுக்க வேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யவில்லை யென்றால் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை. எனக்குக் கொடுத்த நேரத்திற்குள் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்பொழுது கல்வியைப்பற்றி பெருவாரியாக பேசினார்கள். இந்தக் கல்வியினால் பிரயோசனமா இல்லையா என்பதைப்பற்றி நான் சொல்வதற்கு ஒன்றும் இல்லை. நான் ஒரு நிபுணர் அல்ல. ஆனால் நிபுணர்கள் கமிட்டியின் அறிக்கை வந்தது. கமிட்டி அங்கத்தினர்கள் எந்தெந்த கிராமங்களைப் போய் பார்த்தார்களோ தெரியவில்லை. அநேகமாக பார்த்திருக்க மாட்டார்கள். உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டே தான் ரிபோர்ட் எழுதியிருப்பார்கள். பல இடங்களுக்குப் போய் பார்த்தால் நன்றாகத் தெரிந்து இருக்கும். எங்கள் கிராமத்தில் விவசாயிகள் இருக்கும் இடங்களில் போய் பார்த்தால் பள்ளிக் கூடங்களில் சுமார் 210 பிள்ளைகள் வந்த பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் இப்பொழுது சுமார் 170, 150 பிள்ளைகளுக்குமேல் வருவது கிடையாது. அவ்வளவு கூட சில இடங்களில் வருவதில்லை. ஜனங்கள் புரட்சி செய்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லக் கூடாது. ஜனங்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை யென்றால் அவர்களை அனுசரித்துத் தான் போகவேண்டும். கசப்பு மருந்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் முதலில் கொஞ்சம் வெல்லத்தைக் கலந்து கொடுத்துவிட்டு பிறகு வெல்லம் இல்லாமல் கசப்பு மருந்தைக் கொடுப்பதற்கு முயற்சி செய்ய வேண்டும். பிறகு அவர்கள் தானாகவே வெல்லமில்லாமல் கசப்பு மருந்தைச் சாப்பிட முன் வருவார்கள். அதைப்போலவே தான் இதையும் செய்ய

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வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது அங்கீகாரம் இல்லாத பல போட்டிப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் கிளம்பி இருக்கின்றன. எனது ஊராகிய பாகனேரியில் பல போட்டிப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் கிளம்பி இருக்கின்றன. ஏட்டுப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களினால் பலன் இல்லாமற் போனாலும் அவைகள் அநேகம் இப்பொழுது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. பாட திட்டத்தை பாதியாகக் குறைத்ததால்தான் இதற்கு போட்டி ஏற்பட்டது. இதை அனுபவத்தில் பார்த்துச்செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

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SRI N. ANNAMALAI-PILLAI :—“கனம் டிபுடி சேர்மன் அவர்களே, வெகு நாளைக்குப் பிறகு டெபுடி சேர்மன் அவர்களை இந்த ஸ்தானத்தில் காண்பது எனக்கு ரொம்ப சந்தோஷத்தைக் கொடுக்கிறது. அவர் நடந்த எலெக்ஷனில் நிற்க வேண்டிய நிர்ப்பந்தம் ஏற்பட்டு விட்டதால் மறுபடியும் அந்தப் பதவிக்கு வருவாரோ வரமாட்டாரோ என்று கவலை யுற்றவர்களில் நானும் ஒருவன். அந்தக் கவலை இன்றோடு மறைந்து விட்டது. இரண்டு நாளைக்கு முன் எலெக்ஷன் நடந்திருந்தாலும், இன்று தான் அவரை ஆசனத்தில் அழகாகக் காண்கிறேன்.

“வரவு சிலவுத் திட்டத்தை தலைவர்கள் நன்றாக ஆலோசனை செய்து கொண்டு வந்து வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதை ஆதரிக்கின்றேன். தலைவர் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் இந்த மாகாணம் அபாயத்தில் சிக்கிக்கொண்டது என்று இந்த மாகாணம் மாத்திரமல்ல, பல மாகாணங்களும் யோசனை செய்து என்ன ஆதரவு என்று பயந்திருந்த நேரத்தில், தலைவர் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜ் அவர்களையே முயற்சியினால், முதல் மந்திரி பதவியை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு இன்று வரை வேலைசெய்துகொண்டு வருகின்றார். அவருடைய ஆட்சியில் நாம் எவ்வளவு நன்மையை அடைந்திருக்கிறோம் என்பது எதிர்க்கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் கூட ஜாடையாய் ஒப்புக் கொள்கின்றார்கள். அவர்கள் உண்மையைப் போாமல் இரக்கமுடியவில்லை. ஏன் இதைச் சொல்கிறேனென்றால், கனம் ஸ்ரீ ஆதித்தனை போலுள்ளவர்கள் ரொம்ப வன்மையாக ராஜாஜியை எதிர்த்து மேல்சபையில் பேசுகிறார்கள். அப்பேற்பட்டவர்கள் கூட, அவரை நல்ல அறிவாளிதான். புத்திசாலிதான், கெட்டிக்காரர்தான் என்று புகழ்ந்து என்னிடத்தில் பேசுகிறபோது சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் இங்கு பேசுகிறபோது வேறு விதமாகப் பேசுகிறார்கள். (At this stage Hon. Chairman resumed the chair) மொத்தத்தில் கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுடைய ஆட்சி நமக்கு நன்மையையும் தர்மத்தையும் உண்டு பண்ணியிருப்பதில் சந்தேகம் யாருக்கும் இருக்காது. கனம் டாக்டர் ஜான் அவர்களும் இதை ஒப்புக்கொள்வார்கள் என்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

”அடுத்தபடியாக, ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் நிர்வாகத்தை ஏற்றுக்கொண்ட பிறகு, மழை பெய்தது என்று சொன்னார்கள். மழை பெய்தது உண்மை தான். யார் இல்லையென்று சொல்ல முடியும்? மற்றவர்கள் இருந்தபோது மழை பெய்ததா இல்லையா என்பது வேறு விஷயம். மழையில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில், ராஜாஜி பதவிக்கு வந்தார். பிறகு மழை பெய்தது என்பது வாஸ்தவம். அதனாலேயே அவரை எங்கு மழையில்லையோ அங்கு அனுப்பினால் அங்கெல்லாம் மழை பெய்யுமே என்ற முறையில் சிலர் பேசினார்கள். அவர் செல்லும் இடங்களிலெல்லாம் வேண்டுமானால் மழை பெய்யத்தான் செய்யும். அது வேறு விஷயம். அவர் இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் பதவி ஏற்றுக்கொண்டபின் மழை பெய்தது என்பது கண்கூடு. ‘காக்கை உட்காருவதற்கும் பனம் பழம் விழுவதற்கும் சரியாக இருந்தது’ என்று வேண்டுமானாலும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுங்கள். அதைப் பற்றி நான் கவலைப்படவில்லை. கேள்வி அது அல்ல. அவர் வந்தவுடன் மழைபெய்ததா இல்லையா என்பதுதான் கேள்வி. அவர் வந்தார். மழை பெய்தது. இதை யாரும் மறக்க முடியாதே! ‘நல்லார் ஒருவர் உளரேல் அவர் பொருட்டெல்லார்க்கும் பெய்யு மழை’ என்று பெரியவர்கள் சொன்னது வீண் போக முடியாது.

“நமது நிர்வாகத்தில் மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் பயனற்றதாய்விட்டது என்று பல பேர்கள் இங்கே பேசினார்கள். எனக்கு மிக வருத்தமாக இருக்

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கிறது. மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று எல்லாக் கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்களும்—இந்துக்கள், முகமதியர்கள், கிறிஸ்தவர்கள், பாரசீக்கர்கள் இன்னும் எல்லாக் கட்சிகளும் இந்த மதுவானது நாட்டில் இருக்கக்கூடாது, அது உதவாது, அதை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். அதைக் என்றும் குடித்தவர்கள் மூர்க்கர்களாகவும், தூர்த்தர்களாகவும், துரக்கிருதர்களாகவும் ஆகி விடுகிறார்கள் என்றெல்லாம் பேசினோம். வேதங்கள் சொல்லுகின்றன, சாஸ்திரங்கள் சாற்றுகின்றன, கீதை சொல்லுகிறது, பைபிள் சொல்லுகிறது, குரான் சொல்லுகிறது என்றெல்லாம் சொல்லி, கடைசியில் சட்டபூர்வமாக மதுவை எடுத்துவிட்டோம். இப்பொழுது அது தோற்றுப் போய்விட்டது, கள்ளக்கடைகள் திறந்துவிட்டால் அதனால் சர்க்காருக்கு அதிக வருமானம் வரும் என்றெல்லாம் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். கள்ளக்கடை எடுப்பதுடன், மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் அமுலுக்கு வந்தால், அரசாங்கத்தின் வருமானம் குறைந்துவிடுமே என்பதற்காகத்தான் கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் 1936-ம் வருடத்தில், விற்பனை வரி போடுகிறேன் என்று ஜனங்களிடத்தில் வாக்கு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார். அதை யாரும் மறந்துவிட முடியாது. மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை ரத்துசெய்தால், விற்பனை வரியையும் ரத்து செய்யவேண்டும். மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டத்தை எடுத்துவிட்டு, விற்பனை வரி மட்டும் இருந்தால் சர்க்கார் மீது நம்பிக்கை இருக்க முடியாது. ஆகவே, சர்க்கார் கொடுத்த வாக்குறுதியை நிறைவேற்றவேண்டும். கள்ளக்கடை மூடுவதால் வரும் நஷ்டத்தை ஈடு செய்வதற்காகத்தானே விற்பனை வரி போடப்பட்டது. அந்த விற்பனை வரி இருந்தால், கள்ளக்கடையைத் திறக்கவே முடியாது. விற்பனை வரியை ரத்து செய்து கள்ளக்கடைகளைத் திறந்துவிடலாம் என்று வாதித்தால், அது ரொம்பவும் பரம்ப. மக்களைப் புனிதர்களாக ஆக்கவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்தில் மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் வந்தது. அது எடுக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டால், மக்கள் குடித்து, படுபாதாளத்தில் போய்விடுவார்கள் என்பதை ஞாபகப் படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். கள்ளக்கடை மீண்டும் திறக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று சொல்பவர்கள் பாவிகளென மக்கள் கருதுவார்கள். மக்களைப் புனிதர்களாகச் செய்வதற்காகத்தான் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை ஏற்றுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறீர்கள். அநேக ஆண்டுகளாக அன்விய ஆட்சியின் கீழ் அகப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு மக்கள் மதுவிலை மூழ்கியிருந்தார்கள். மக்கள் மீள் முடியாகக் கஷ்டத்தில் ஆழ்ந்திருந்தார்கள். சுயராஜ்யம் கிடைத்தவுடன் பல விதங்களில் நம்முடைய மக்கள் முன்னேறுவதற்கான காரியங்கள் நடந்து வருகின்றன. சுயராஜ்யம் கிடைத்து 6 ஆண்டுகள் கடந்துவிட்டன. ஆனால், முதல் இரண்டு வருஷங்கள் ஆரம்ப வேலைக்காகச் செலவழிந்துவிட்டன. பாக்கி 4 வருஷங்களுக்குள்ளே எல்லாவற்றையும் நிறைவேற்றிவிட முடியாது.

“நான்கு வருஷங்களில் மக்கள் எதிர்பார்த்த காரியங்களையெல்லாம் செய்துவிட யாராலும் முடியாது என்பதை எதிர்க் கட்சியிலுள்ளவர்கள் யோசிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். ராஜாஜி பதவிக்கு வந்து இரண்டு வருஷ காலம் ஆகப்போகிறது. நாடு பஞ்சத்தில் ஆழ்ந்திருக்கிறது, மக்கள் திண்டாடுகிறார்கள், சாப்பாட்டுக்கு உணவு இல்லை, அவர்கள் ரோட்டிலே கிடக்கிறார்கள், கால்வாயில் கிடக்கிறார்கள் என்றெல்லாம் சொல்லுகிறார்களே. இவைகளெல்லாம் ராஜாஜி ஆட்சியினால் ஏற்பட்ட காரியங்களா? இவைகளையெல்லாம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் தலைமீது சுமத்துவது ரொம்ப நியாயமற்ற காரியமாகும். இந்தக் கொள்கை, இந்தக் கஷ்டம், இற்றல்ல, யுத்தம் வந்த முதலே இந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை ஜனங்கள் அனுபவிக்க ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். சென்ற 6 வருஷங்களாக மக்கள் பசியினால் வாடி வதங்கி செத்து சுண்ணம்பாசிவிட்டார்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். 6 வருஷத்திற்கு முன்னால் வங்காளத்தில் 25 லட்சம் பேர்கள் இறந்து போனார்கள் என்று வங்காள சர்க்காரே ஒப்புக்கொண்டு விட்டார்கள். அம் மாதிரியான காரியம் இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் வரமுடியாது. ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் இந்த ராஜ்யத்தை இன்றைக்கு நடத்துகின்றார் என்றால், அது நம்முடைய அதிர்ஷ்டமே. ஐந்து வருஷப் பஞ்சத்தில் மூழ்கி அவதிப்பட்ட அரசாங்கத்தில் இன்றைக்கு அமைதி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஜனங்கள் மீண்டும் நல்ல வாழ்வு வாழ்வதற்கான அறிஞரிகள் ராஜாஜி சர்க்காரில் காணப்படுகின்றன. ஒரு நல்ல வாழ்வு ஏற்படும் என்று எண்ணுவதற்குக் காரணம் ராஜாஜி

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அவர்கள் இன்றைக்கு பதவியை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டிருப்பதுதான். அந்தப் பெருமை ராஜாஜி அவர்களுக்குத்தான் இருக்கிறது என்று நான் மாதிரி மல்ல, நாடு சொல்லும் விஷயம். நாட்டிலுள்ள மக்கள் ராஜாஜியினுடைய ஆட்சி எவ்வளவு நல்லது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்பதை மறந்துவிடக் கூடாது.

“அடுத்தாற்போல் ஜெனரல் எலெக்ஷன், தாலுகா போர்டு எலெக்ஷன், ஜில்லா போர்டு எலெக்ஷன் வருகின்றன. இன்றைக்கு நாம் செய்கிற நல்ல காரியத்தைப் பொறுத்துத்தான் எதிர்காலம் இருக்கும். தவறான பாதையில் ஜனங்களைத் திருப்ப வேண்டாமென்று தலைவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். பஞ்சத்தினால் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கும் மக்களைக் காப்பாற்ற வேண்டுமென்று இங்கு எல்லா கட்சித் தலைவர்களையும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். கட்சி விவாதத்திற்கோ, மற்ற தொல்லைகளுக்கோ ஜனங்களைக் கொண்டு போகவேண்டாமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் மந்திரி சபை அமைப்பில் ஸ்ரீமதி ஜோதி வெங்கடாசலம் அவர்களை மந்திரியாக நியமித்தது தவறு அல்லவா என்றும், 60 ஹரிஜன அங்கத்தினர்கள் இருக்கும்போது அங்கத்தினர் அல்லாத ஒருவரை நியமித்தது பெரும் தவறல்லவா என்று கேட்கிறார்கள். இன்றைய தினம் மகாத்மாஜி இருப்பாரானால், ராஜாஜியினுடைய பெருமையைப் பேசுவதற்கு உலகம் பூராவும் புகழும்படியான ஒரு நிலையைத்தான் உண்டுபண்ணியிருப்பார். ஏன்? ஒரு ஹரிஜன மாதை அரசாங்கத்தின் மந்திரியாக அமைத்த தானது ஆயிரக்கணக்கான வருஷங்களாக, சரித்திரம் காணாத ஒரு அதிசயம். மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தில் ஒரு பெண்மணியை டெபுடி மந்திரியாக நியமித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ‘கை வண்ணம் அங்கு கண்டேன், கால் வண்ணம் இங்கு கண்டேன்’ என்ற முறையில் ஒரு பெண்மணியை மந்திரியாக நியமிக்கும் பாக்கியம் இந்திய சுதந்திர சர்க்காரில் கண்டோம். சென்னை அரசாங்கத்தில் ராஜாஜியின் தலைமையில் ஒரு ஹரிஜன மாதவை மந்திரியாக அமைத்திருக்கும் பாக்கியத்தை பெற்றிருக்கிறோம். உலகம் புகழும் விஷயம். இதைத் தவறாக நினைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லை. இதைக் கண்டு பெருமைகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் நன்றாக நடக்காமல் இருப்பதற்கு காரணம் என்ன? கேட்டால், மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை மீறுகிறவர்களைப் பிடிக்கப் போகின்ற போலீஸ்காரர்கள், 20, 30 பேரைப் பிடித்து ஒரு கேசைப் போடுகின்றார்கள். கோர்ட்டில் ஒரு கேஸ் கொண்டுவந்தால், என்ன கேட்கிறார்கள்? வாழைப் பழம் சாப்பிட்டு இரண்டு மணி நேரம் ஆனால், சாராயம் வாசனை வருமா? என்று மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கேட்கிறார். வரலாம் என்று டாக்டர் சொல்லுகிறார். உடனே விடுதலை செய்துவிட்டேன் என்று மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சொல்லுகிறார். நீதி நிர்வாகப் பிரிவினையினால் வந்த ஆபத்து இது. 10 தடவை ஜெயிலுக்குப் போய் வந்தவனை மறுபடியும் கோர்ட்டிலே நிறுத்தினால், மேல் சொன்ன மாதிரி கேள்வியைக் கேட்டு, அவனை விடுதலை செய்துவருகின்றார்கள்.

“போலீசார் கடைத் தெருவில் பகிரங்கமாக பகல் 12 மணிக்கு போகிற வருகிற ஜனங்களை அடித்து தொந்தரவு செய்து, யாரும் ஒன்றும் செய்ய முடியாமல் போலீஸ் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர், அவன் பேரில் கேஸ் போடுகிறார். பழைய படியே கேள்விகள் போட்டு கேஸ் தள்ளுபடியாகிவிடுகிறது. நீதி நன்றாக நடக்கவில்லை, போலீஸ்காரர்கள் கேஸ்களைக் கண்டுபிடித்தாலும், குற்றவாளிகளுக்கு சரியாக தண்டனை கொடுக்கமுடியாமல் போய்விடுகின்றது. போலீஸ் டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலே அவர்கள் வேலை செய்வது சங்கடமாய் இருக்கிறது. 1, 2, 10 தரம் மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை மீறி ஜெயிலுக்கும் போனவர்கள் மீண்டும் கேஸ்களில் பிடிக்கப்பட்டு விடுதலை செய்யப்படுகிறார்கள்.

“கனம் ஊஸ்மான் அவர்கள் நேற்றையதினம் பேசினபோது ஒரு விஷயத்தை ஞாபகப்படுத்தினார். பாகிஸ்தான் அமெரிக்காவுடன் உடன்படிக்கை செய்துகொள்ளக் கூடாதென்றும், இந்தச் சமயத்தில் எல்லாக் கட்சிக்காரர்களும் ஒன்றாகச் சேரவேண்டுமென்றும், நேற்று மிகப் பழுத்த அரசியல் வாதியாகிய தலைவர் ஊஸ்மான் சாகிபு அவர்கள் வற்புறுத்தியதை அனைவரும் ஞாபகத்தில் வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

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கின்றேன். ஆபத்து தலைமேல் இருக்கிறது. ஒருவரோடொருவர் அடித்துக் கொண்டும், தகராறு செய்துகொண்டும் இருந்தால், நாம் முன்னேற முடியாது. ஆகவே, நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒன்றுபடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“கடன் நிவாரணச் சட்டம் பயன் இல்லையென்று தலைவர் ஓமாந்தூர் ஸ்ரீராமசாமி ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். கடன் நிவாரணச் சட்டத்தினால் இன்றைக்கு மக்கள் கடன் தொல்லையிலிருந்து விடுபட்டு சுபீட்சமாக வாழ்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன். கடைசியாக, கல்வித் திட்டம் ரொம்ப சரியான திட்டம், ஜனங்களுக்குப் பயன் படுகிறது என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்கின்றேன்.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ I am sorry I have to stop the hon. Member. The hon. Member was given ten minutes but he has taken 15 minutes. I regret I am not able to call all hon. Members to-day to speak. There are only two remedies for that. One is that the Government must give some more days for discussion or the Members must make their speeches shorter. It will be physically impossible to call all the hon. Members to speak within the time at our disposal and I apologize to them. I now call upon the Hon. Finance Minister to speak.”

4-35
p.m

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ When the Budget discussions takes place in February-March 1954, four days, which is the usual time allotted, may be given to this House.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ The suggestion of the hon. Member will be kept in mind.

“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, we had a lively, interesting and instructive debate for the last two days. I know that many hon. Members who are in a position to make a good and valuable contribution to the debate, have not been able to participate. But on the 2nd January 1954 we will be discussing the Appropriation Bill wherein almost the same kind of discussion can take place. I am sure hon. Members who have not been able to participate in this debate during these two days will be given a chance then. I am anxiously waiting to hear their speeches, especially those of the hon. Members on the other side.

“ Sir, before I begin to deal with the various matters which had been touched upon during this debate, I would like first to refer to one point referred to by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. That is with regard to the supplying of fuller and complete information to the hon. Members here. I do not know whether he was referring to the Budget papers relating to the present Budget or to the Budget papers presented in March 1953. If he was referring to the Budget papers which I presented in March 1953, I would respectfully submit that we have given fuller information as before. We have not cut down any of the information which we were giving in 1949. To be on the safe side, I compared the figures and facts which have been supplied to the hon. Members in 1949 with those which were supplied in March 1953 and I find that without any exception almost all the information has been given in the papers which have been supplied to the

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hon. Members in March 1953. One particular point was mentioned by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, namely, that information regarding the number of officers and their pay has not been given. But I would request the hon. Leader of the Opposition to refer to Appendix V and Appendix VI to the Demands for Grants and Detailed Budget Estimates. He will find that the scales of the Gazetted officers as also particulars about officers and establishments are given in detail there as before. We have not in any way omitted any of the matters which I was able to find in the Budget Memorandum and the Detailed Budget Estimates which were published in 1949. I would like to know whether I am not making a mistake."

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I explain that in 1949 itself there was a reduction in the information given in the Budget. If you look up the Budgets for the years of 1947-48 and 1946-47, you will find that there are more facts placed there. Secondly, in 1948-49 the information given under the relevant Heads was complete and it was not in the nature of Appendices lumped together so that hon. Members are not in a position to give it a detailed consideration. I shall be writing to the Hon. the Leader of the House and to the Hon. Finance Minister what exactly I meant."

4-40
p.m.

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" On my part I promise to the House that I am prepared to give whatever information is required. As a matter of fact, I believe in giving full and complete information and ascertaining the views of the Members. We do not want to suppress any information that is available. Even now the budget volume is so bulky that I am afraid many hon. Members do not go through it being frightened by the very bulk of it. If an hon. Member wants any further information, certainly it will be supplied to him. If the hon. Leader of the Opposition suggests that all the information should be printed irrespective of whether hon. Members make use of it or not, certainly we will take that suggestion into consideration and do whatever is possible. I give this assurance to the Leader of the Opposition.

" My task in replying to the debate has been made easy to a great extent by the intervention of the Hon. Chief Minister. He dealt with the various aspects of the administration raised on the floor of this House, particularly with elementary education and matters connected with it. Therefore it will not be necessary for me to deal with those subjects which have been dealt with by him.

" The budget debate was initiated by Dr. John. The most appropriate comment on his speech was made by the Chief Minister when he said that it was rather unfortunate. Dr. John began by saying that we should keep up the dignity of the House and the level of the debate. I wish he had done that. I have noted down some of the phrases he used and I do not know whether they are in

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keeping with the dignity of the House. I am sure he will reflect upon them. I do hope to have a more dignified contribution from him next time than what we had this time.

“He made a very strong criticism that we were having an irrational tax structure. It may be so. But this suggestion has come a little bit late because the Government of India have already taken up the matter very seriously and appointed a Taxation Enquiry Commission. If only the hon. Member had taken the trouble of going through the questionnaire issued by that Commission, he would have found that the entire field is covered by it. The Commission is making the enquiry and visiting the various States.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“On a Point of information, Sir. I wish to know whether any unparliamentary words were used by me and whether any objection was taken to them then and there.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“Even without using unparliamentary words, a speech can be unpleasant and undignified enough.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“On a point of order, Sir. It may be unpleasant to the Government, for I was frank and strong in my criticism. But he has characterised my speech as undignified. I should like to know which of the words used by me he considers as unparliamentary.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“I will come to that. The tax structure is under examination. When the report of the Commission is published, the Central Government and the State Governments will examine the recommendations made therein. Then it may be possible to revise our tax structure not only with reference to the existing taxes, but also with reference to the distribution of the powers of taxation between the Centre and the States.

“The next point raised by Dr. John was with regard to Sales Tax. He characterised it as an ‘immoral tax’ and a ‘blood-sucking leech’. I do not know whether he has studied the tax structure in other countries. Sales Tax has now come to be regarded as a normal mode of taxation, and almost all the civilized countries have adopted this form of taxation. Therefore I do not know what Dr. John means by saying that this is an ‘immoral tax’ and a ‘blood-sucking leech’. Perhaps he is confusing the Sales Tax with the administration of the Sales Tax law. These two are quite different things. If he has made such a confusion, he has to blame himself. I agree that there is a certain amount of difficulty in administering the Sales Tax law, there is a certain amount of harassment especially of petty merchants. All that has got to be looked into. But that does not make the tax as such either ‘immoral’ or a ‘blood-sucking leech’. Sales Tax need not be considered as immoral or irrational or as something new. It was introduced in this State by the Hon. Chief Minister when he was the Prime Minister of this State in 1937.

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But long before that and soon after the First World War, this form of taxation was adopted in various States and now it has become a common feature in almost all the States. A major portion of the revenue in the States in the United States of America, France and other countries is derived from Sales Tax. Therefore Dr. John need not go under the impression that only the Madras State has adopted this immoral tax and that we are using this blood-sucking leech to impoverish our poor people."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" In other countries there is purchase tax and not sales tax."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" In some States it is known as sales tax, in some States it is known as purchase tax and in some States it is known as use tax. The form of tax is the same, whatever be the name given to it. If the hon. Member is interested, I am prepared to pass on the available literature about the tax which he may read and get some more enlightenment.

" Then, he dealt with the motor vehicle taxation. I know that he can speak with a certain amount of authority on this subject because some of his rich clients are motor bus operators. Here again he has gone wrong on facts. He threw a challenge at me in a true Falstaffian way to prove that the number of buses has really increased after the imposition of the surcharge on bus fares. I gave the figures in the Assembly and I will give them here also for his benefit. On 1st February 1953 when the tax came into operation, there were 3,395 stage carriage permits in the Madras State. My hon. Friend said that even permits which were transferred were treated as new permits in arriving at this figure. It is not so. As soon as a permit is transferred, the old permit is cancelled and another valid permit comes into existence. In the Madras State, leaving aside the Andhra area, the number of permits on 1st December 1953 was 3,511. There has thus been a definite increase in the number of buses by 116 and there is no use of throwing a challenge to the Finance Minister or the Government to prove that there has been an increase. Even now the struggle for getting permits has not in any way diminished. I do not know what the experience of Dr. John is from the engagements he is getting. There is still a scramble for permits. I have absolutely no doubt that still this is considered to be a profitable industry and many people are anxious to take to it. It is not only the new operators who are anxious to get into the field. Even the old bus operators want to get permits for running more and more buses. If the statement of Dr. John that it is no longer profitable to run buses is correct, I do not see why established operators, who are already running their existing buses at a loss, should apply for permits for more buses, engage a lawyer and go in appeal to the Central Road Traffic Board, and again go to the High Court on a writ petition engaging a lawyer there also. Therefore, there is no use of saying that this taxation has crippled the industry. It is easy to say that. But, I would request Dr. John to remember another factor also. When we introduced this tax, there were

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almost famine conditions prevailing throughout the State. That situation had affected all the industries including the motor industry. But after that, the situation has considerably improved. Further, the Central Government have also decreased the import duty on the spare parts of buses. Therefore, the operation cost with reference to spare parts has also gone down. The price of petrol has also fallen, not to a great extent, but to a very small extent. Taking all these factors into consideration, the position has now considerably improved and this motor bus tax cannot be more oppressive than what it was on 1st February 1953 when it was introduced. But, we are prepared to go into the matter on the whole and find out whether, as a matter of fact, this tax has in any way affected the industry. It is easy to say—to use the expression of Dr. John—that this State has become notorious with reference to motor vehicles taxation. I agree that the rate of taxation in our State is the highest as far as motor vehicles are concerned. But it should be looked at with reference to the development of the motor bus industry as a whole. In no other State there are as many stage carriages as in our State with reference to the population and area. There are not so many miles of road in any other State as we have in our State. So, considering the position as a whole, even though we have been adopting a high rate of taxation in respect of motor vehicles, the industry has not in any way been crippled or affected. On the other hand, progressively the number of buses has been going up. If that be so, what is the use of merely saying that we have become notorious in respect of motor vehicles taxation? We have to go by results and if we find that there is any deterioration with respect to the industry, certainly we will take note of it. We are not foolish enough to kill the goose which lays the golden eggs. We are also interested in the development and growth of this industry. Not only for the purpose of deriving some revenue from it but even from the national point of view and in the general interest of the State, we are bound to see that this industry thrives well. There might be some difference of opinion with regard to the beneficial interest of introducing these motor buses from village to village and from town to town. Apart from that, even from a selfish point of view, we are interested in seeing that the number of buses does not go down and that at least the existing number is maintained. But, as a matter of fact, there is a definite increase. Therefore, the charge that this tax is crippling the industry is not well-founded.

“ Another argument advanced by Dr. John was that this tax was bound to be passed on to the passengers. Therefore, he said that the poor passengers would be affected. On the other hand, the hon. Member Sri Purushotham, who is also interested in the welfare of the bus industry, stated that this tax could not be passed on to the passengers and that, therefore, the operators were affected. On that basis, he pleaded for a reduction of taxation. I do not know whose statement is correct. But, I am sure Sri Purushotham has made a very frank statement that it is not

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possible to pass on the tax to the passengers, because if it had been possible to increase the bus fare, it would have been done long ago. The permissible maximum rate of bus fare has not been levied on many of the routes. The operators have not increased the fare because if they had increased it, the law of diminishing returns would have set in. The operators are practical people and they know how to put up the bus fare. Therefore, there is no use of saying that the tax is bound to be passed on to the passengers and that in order to bring relief to the poor passengers we should reconsider this taxation.

“ Then, Sir, in general he said that we should select the taxes to be collected from the people. He was good enough to make the suggestion that we should introduce the agricultural income-tax. I do not know whether he has made any calculation or has gone into the figures of what we would be able to realise by the introduction of agricultural income-tax. Taking the State as a whole even when the Andhra area was included in the Madras State, if we give exemption up to an income of Rs. 3,500 which is being allowed in the general sector of income-tax or even if we fix the limit at Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,500, a very optimistic estimate of the revenue would be only about Rs. 40 lakhs. In lieu of this, the hon. Member wants us to give up the entire land revenue. Perhaps, he intended that we should give up the sales tax also. But agricultural income-tax would yield only about Rs. 40 lakhs. It may be possible to collect the agricultural income-tax in addition to the land revenue. But the main difficulty would be the maintenance of accounts by the ryots who are not accustomed to keep accounts. We should not have another engine of harassment as far as the ryots are concerned. That is why we are hesitating to bring in the law relating to agricultural income-tax. It is easy for us, lawyers, to say, ‘ Let us bring in the agricultural income-tax. After all, the maintenance of accounts is very easy. The accounts could be very easily accepted by the income-tax officers.’ But as far as the ryots are concerned, it will be a very troublesome affair. That is why, even though that is one of the sources of revenue allotted to the States, we have not yet taken any steps to introduce the agricultural income-tax.

“ Finally, the hon. Member Dr. John said that by his speech at least, I would become wiser by the time the next Budget is presented. As far as I am concerned, I do not claim that I am wise enough. I said elsewhere and I always adopt that attitude of learning everyday so that I might become wiser. Whether he has any wisdom to spare, it is for Dr. John to decide. As far as I am concerned, I am quite receptive. Not only with reference to Dr. John’s words but with reference to the words of every hon. Member here, I am always receptive and I approach every question in a spirit of learning from whomsoever it may be and in a spirit that if it is a proper suggestion, I should be benefited by it. I can assure the hon. Member Dr. John that I shall try to become wiser, that I am always endeavouring to become wiser and that I have not stopped becoming wiser.

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“ Then, Sir, about the borrowing programme also Dr. John had something to say. He asked, ‘ How long should this Government go on borrowing?’ I may tell him that as long as the Government exist, they will go on borrowing. I am not speaking with reference to the personnel of the present Government but as long as the Government as such exist, they will have to go on borrowing, because it is not possible to have capital schemes executed out of normal revenues. It has to be done by borrowing either from the people or from the Central Government or from some other foreign source. We on our part adopted the policy of approaching the people as such, enthrusing them and asking them to contribute to our exchequer so that we might execute the various capital schemes. Dr. John was wondering whether there was any estimate of the probable income from the various schemes. I may assure the hon. Member, as I assured him during question time to-day, that before any scheme is taken up, it is completely investigated, not for a month but for years, an estimate of expenditure and probable income is drawn up, and it is considered whether it is economical and whether it should be given priority over other schemes. Only after all these processes are gone through, a scheme is sanctioned. If only the hon. Member would look into the general electricity schemes, he would find that we are getting a net income of more than Rs. 2 crores from them. That is one kind of schemes on which we have expended from the borrowings. Dr. John was saying that we had frittered away the revenue reserve of Rs. 43.5 crores. Has he examined on what schemes that money has been expended? If he had criticised with reference to each such scheme that the scheme was useless or uneconomic and that it should not have been taken up, then I would have been glad about it. He simply made a sweeping statement on the floor of the House that we have frittered away the entire reserve of Rs. 43½ crores. What for are the reserves built? They are not built up only to be looked at like a miser. The reserves are built up during prosperous days so that they may be used during drought and famine periods and during affected seasons. That is why, during these days of drought in the past six years, we were utilizing the reserves not for the purpose of squandering or frittering away the money, but for the purpose of executing schemes which would prevent these drought and famine conditions recurring again and again. If only Dr. John would look into the schemes on which we have spent the reserves, I am sure he will have at least a good word to say that the amount has been well spent and that we did not simply hoard the money like a miser. 5 p.m.

“ With reference to the expenditure incurred on the revenue account also, he made a sweeping statement by saying that it is all waste. He said 90 per cent of it was waste. That is what I have noted down here. I think he said that ‘ The Government must satisfy this House that the expenditure incurred on the revenue account was well spent ’.”

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ While I was referring to the expenditure on Education, I said that 90 per cent of the extra provision went to waste. Taht is all.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Whatever it is, if he says that he has not said like that or if he is prepared to withdraw his remarks with respect to this matter, I shall be glad.

“ Dr. John said that this Government had no policy and it was only a policy of drift and so on. Even in my Budget speech, I have said that we should not discuss policies now as we will be disassessing only the supplementary budget. When the regular budget is presented in February 1954 and when we will have a fuller discussion, I hope that I will be able to convince even Dr. John that we have a definite policy and that we are doing our best to implement that policy in spite of the opposition from Dr. John.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Probably the Hon. Minister does not want any opposition at all! ”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Not this sort of opposition which Dr. John was attempting to make, Sir.

“ Sir, I was listening with respect and reverence to the observations made by my revered friend Mr. O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar. I am sorry he is not here and I hope he will not misunderstand me for what I am going to say about his observations. When I was hearing his speech, I was only tempted to cry aloud in the words of the Prince of Denmark,

‘ The time is out of joint, Oh cursed spite,
That ever I was born to set it right ! ’

There are very many ills in the country which have to be removed. They can be removed only by making honest attempts without minding the opposition and unpopularity. Provided we are satisfied that what we are doing is good and if our conscience is also satisfied that we are doing only the correct thing, whatever may be the unpopularity and whatever may be the opposition which might arise out of it, we have got to face them. I was really surprised when he mentioned that if a certain policy was continued, the Congress party was likely to be defeated in the elections. Sir, I do not know whether problems are to be viewed from the point of view as to whether we are going to win in the next elections or not. If we do the right thing, I have absolutely no doubt that the people, if not immediately, at least in the near future, are bound to appreciate the good things done by the Government. If there is any temporary opposition, it is our duty, and it is the duty of all those who have come to the conclusion that we are doing the right thing, to see that the opposition, misunderstanding, doubt and suspicions are removed from the minds of the people. If only such an approach is made, not only the modified elementary education scheme, but very many other good things

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could be achieved. Only by approaching the problems in this manner, it will be possible for us to go forward in the path of prosperity.

“ Hon. Member Sri Govinda Menon with his usual ardour for cottage industries and with his opposition to machinery as such made a suggestion that we should abolish all the rice mills, at least those in the Palghat taluk, and thereby provide employment to thousands of people who are at present unemployed. I do not disagree with him. On the other hand I agree with him and with his approach to the problem. But the thing is, if I act on his suggestion, I will be considered out of date. These are days of industrialization. Mr. Adityan has said that we should go all out for complete industrialization and that we should instal big machinery which should be utilized for increasing the production. In my humble view, if production is important, the employment of the people so that they may have the necessary facilities to utilize what is produced is all the more necessary. There is no use of increasing the production on the one side and on the other side impoverishing a large section of the people. Unless the major section of the people is in a position to utilize the increased production made in the country, it will be absolutely useless to go on increasing the production at the cost of impoverishing a large section of the people. From this point of view I agree that the rice mills have been responsible for the large-scale unemployment and for thousands of people being thrown out of employment. Not only from this point of view but from the point of view of nutrition, these rice mills have caused considerable havoc in the country. But, whether it would be possible to remove all these mills and whether the fundamental rights guaranteed under our Constitution would not stand in the way are all questions which have to be carefully looked into. In fact, this matter has been taken up with the Planning Commission. I think they are looking into the matter and it seems that their legal experts say that the only way in which this problem can be dealt with is to purchase the entire rice milling machinery in the country so that no such problem may arise. (Laughter.) Mr. Govinda Menon also referred to our Prohibition policy and I know he is always a staunch supporter of that policy.

“ Sir, the last speaker Sri Annamalai Pillai spoke with vehemence, as he knows personally the benefits and advantages of Prohibition. So, it is nothing surprising that he made such a vehement and emotional speech and said that as a result of the Prohibition policy pursued by the Government thousands of souls have been saved. Of course, people who do not have experience and complete knowledge of the real extent to which Prohibition has helped the poorer sections of the people can only make a theoretical appraisal of the benefits of Prohibition. I am glad Mr. Annamalai Pillai spoke with such vehemence and I am sure it would have carried conviction to at least some of the hon. Members and made them realize that Prohibition has really benefited many people. Hon. Member Sri Ethirajulu also referred

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to Prohibition. He belongs to a backward community and he also knows the benefits of Prohibition. If any section of the people has benefited by Prohibition to a great extent, it is only the so-called backward community people. Whatever might be the extent of illicit manufacture and illicit drinking, I am prepared to say it is not done by those who are in the lowest strata of society, but only by those belonging to the upper-middle class and richer classes of society. If the poor people have not taken to these things to-day, they must thank their stars. If only our doctors properly advise those who are engaged in illicit distillation and illicit drinking, as suggested by our Chief Minister; I am sure the very fear that such things would injure their health considerably, would act as a deterrent on those people. Therefore in the interests of the backward people and in the interest of the poorer sections of the people, it is necessary to have this Prohibition, whatever might be the interests of the upper-middle classes and richer classes of people.

“ Sir, I was glad that hon. Member Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu has progressed a little in this direction. When he spoke last, he was outright against Prohibition. Now he has come down a little from that stand and pleaded for the issue of free permits. He says that we should not charge Rs. 50 as fees for the permits and it should be removed. As far as Prohibition as such was concerned, he was prepared to leave it alone. I am glad he has progressed at least to that extent.

5-10 p.m. “ Then, Sir, the problem of unemployment was touched upon by many hon. Members. I would ask hon. Members whether, compared to last year, there is greater unemployment now. Let us look at the conditions prevailing last year. For six years continuously there had been failure of monsoons and the agricultural industry had been greatly affected. Eighty per cent of our people are engaged in agriculture which is the major sector of our national economy. When that major sector was greatly affected, it did not stop there. It affected other industries and the purchasing power of the major section of the population had gone down. That was the position obtaining last year when drought conditions prevailed. But this year we have had normal monsoons. It means we will have normal agricultural operations this year, if not in the entire State, at least in the major part of it. There may be a few pockets here and there wherein there have been failure of rains. But on the whole, the prospects are bright. If that be so, there should be greater employment in the agricultural sector and if there is greater employment in that sector. It is bound to be reflected in other sectors also. So, from that point of view, I am not prepared to accept the statement that conditions have deteriorated in our State this year as compared with last year. On the other hand, the indications have improved. Even taking the contry as a whole, I would say conditions have definitely improved. I would refer hon. Members to the Press Conference recently held by the Union Minister for Finance at which he stated that there was an all round, improvement so far as the economic condition in the country as a whole was concerned.

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" Therefore, when it is said that the beggar problem is acute, I am not prepared to take it as a symptom of the general economic condition prevailing in the country. After all, beggary has been there for years and years. If I may be permitted to refer to the conditions which prevailed in Delhi soon after partition, when lakhs of people from the Punjab flocked into the city and if there was one sight which evoked the admiration of all of us it was that, though they were uprooted from their homes and were going about from place to place, we could find nobody begging in the streets. Even at that time we could find only Tamil beggars in Delhi. It is not as if distress has brought about beggary. It is the mental attitude of the people that is responsible for beggary. Some people take to beggary as a profession and carry on their livelihood by begging. Our mentality is also such that it encourages beggary. We feel that by giving charity to people, we can earn some *punyam*. Therefore, the beggar problem has to be tackled not only from the economic point of view but from the point of view of men's habit. That habit should be removed first. It is necessary that we should remove the beggar boys from the street so that they may not get accustomed to the habit of begging and rehabilitate them. That is the reason why the Government are attaching great importance to the problem of beggary. I do not want to satisfy myself by saying that the problem is not mainly economic. It is also economic and we are trying to tackle the problem from various angles.

" Sir, Mr. Purushotham, with his usual thoroughness, made a very studied speech. He has given very useful suggestions, especially with reference to the taxation policy of the Government. I am really indebted to him for pointing out that we have not brought into effect the revised Court Fees Act which was contemplated even last year. I may assure him that the matter is under consideration and that I am hoping that it will be possible very soon for this House to take it up. So also, with regard to betterment levy, we will take it up soon. I am glad that Mr. Purushotham gave very strong support to the measure. It is but justice that individuals who are benefited at the cost of the general tax-payer should pay at least a portion of the value of benefit that they have got by the execution of the projects. Therefore, I am hoping that when this measure is brought up before this House and also the other House it will receive a large measure of support. Of course, some individuals will oppose it as Mr. Chakkarai Chetty chose to do to-day. But I am happy that even Dr. John support the suggestion, though he charged that we would not be sincere about it.

" Then, Sir, Mr. Purushotham referred to the reconstitution or reorganization of the Board of Revenue. He stressed the point that this regional distribution of work will lead to confusion. That is why we have not yet introduced the scheme. The Government are giving very careful consideration to it and it is only after very careful examination, we will make any change. In this connexion,

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one important aspect of the question should be taken into consideration. Now the Collector is an important figure in the district administration and it is round him the entire administration is centred. If his importance is in any way diminished, then to that extent the efficiency of the district administration is likely to be affected adversely. The Collectors said that if there should be another officer over and above them on the spot, then the tendency of the people would be to rush to the superior officer and that Collectors were likely to be reduced to the position of senior Deputy Collectors. That is a very valid point which was put forward at the Collectors' Conference. Taking all these factors into consideration, we wanted to re-examine the whole position and we are doing that. It is not that we want to stick to our original decision and that we are obstinate in this regard as some people put it. When we make a proposal if valid points are made against it, we are prepared to consider those points and reconsider the proposal. When we publish a proposal, it is only with a view to eliciting public opinion. Whenever criticisms which are valid and acceptable to the Government are made, we certainly reconsider our policy. It is as a result of the valid points made against the proposal that we decided that instead of posting Divisional Commissioners at three towns throughout the State, we should have only regional distribution of work amongst the Board Members with headquarters at Madras itself. As far as each Commissioner is concerned, he will have responsibility only with reference to the region to which he is allotted. So, Sir, no final decision will be taken on our original proposal until all aspects of the question have been considered.

“ Then, Sir, the same hon. Member referred to the question of re-employment of retired officers. I assured him during question hour the other day that it was only with reference to technical personnel, we adopted this policy of re-employment. Before we took over, the policy had been not to re-employ officers but to give extension of service to certain officers on superannuation. Now we have said that there should be no extension of service under any circumstances with reference to any officer, and that, if at all, it should be only re-employment, which makes a little difference. With reference to re-employment, only officers with the requisite technical qualifications are re-employed and that too, only if no suitable persons are available. He specially referred to the re-employment of the Chief Engineer. If the hon. Member looks into the list of persons re-employed, I have absolutely no doubt that he would agree with me that they are an asset to this State and they ought to be re-employed. As a matter of fact there is a great demand for their services from the Central Government for employment in the Damodar Valley project and other river-valley projects. We have also irrigation schemes. We have to plan and execute them properly. Therefore it is that we have re-employed certain retired engineers, highly qualified engineers. It was not done with any individual interest in view, but with the general interest of the State as a whole, for the proper execution of the

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various irrigation schemes. Hon. Members will be glad to hear that we have got a reputation in other States and at the Centre that all our irrigation schemes have been executed quite economically and within the estimated amounts. We have not gone far beyond the estimated expenditure. Our engineers were responsible for this. We want to keep up that reputation and see that the schemes are executed properly and economically. For this purpose, we have re-employed not even five or six persons but only one or two in the interest of the State as a whole. I wish to assure the hon. Members that there is absolutely no other consideration. The only consideration is the interest of the State as such.

“ Then, Sir, another suggestion was made by the hon. Member. namely, ‘ Instead of re-employing these engineers why not have an advisory board? I do not know how that Board would work. Anyhow that suggestion will be examined and if it is found feasible, it will be adopted. (Interruption.) As was pointed out by the Hon. Chief Minister if only we had appointed a Board, I am sure, by this time the matter would have been raised on the floor of this House and a suggestion made that that Board should be abolished at once.

“ Sir, the hon. Member Sri Krishnamurthy and the hon. Member Sri Parameswaran representing the Teachers’ Constituencies made a strong plea for raising the status of the teachers.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ For raising the salaries of teachers . . . ”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ They said that teachers’ status should be raised and incidentally salaries also. I may assure them that I am one with them as far as their desire is concerned regarding the raising of the status and salaries of teachers. I am trying my best to implement their desire, to put into effect their desire. I hope hon. Members will have some patience and give Government some time to consider the whole matter. Only just now we have received the report of the Parulekar Committee. We will examine the whole matter with reference to our financial position and do whatever is possible. I am sorry I am unable at once to give a more definite promise in this regard because it involves finance and therefore requires careful examination.

“ Sir, hon. Member Sri Gnanamuttu referred to the state of lawlessness prevailing in Palayamkottai town and also referred to certain incidents where some robbers rushed into houses and snatched away jewels from some women. I do not know whether it is a phenomenon peculiar to our country alone. Those incidents do not mean anything at all. As a matter of fact, if we go through the news items published in some American papers, we will find that such incidents are common there. If at all such incidents happen in our country now, it is because some films are exhibited here that have reference to gangster activities. Literature dealing with these gangster activities are becoming more and more popular. Further such crimes are committed not only by persons who have

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to eke out their livelihood by stealing but by persons whose imagination in a way is enlivened to a certain extent by seeing such films and reading such literature. Some people want to emulate the example of the robber chieftains. It is not therefore surprising that such incidents take place now. But certainly it is the duty of the State to see that such conditions do not prevail. But they cannot be taken as a general symptom of conditions prevailing in the State as a whole.

“ In dealing with the remarks made by hon. Member Sri Gnanamuttu, I have to deal with the suggestion made by him regarding raising the age-limit of retirement of Government officials to 58 or 60. It is easy to make such a suggestion. But what would be the consequences of accepting such a suggestion? For two or three years there would be no further recruitment. There would be general unemployment among the youths coming out of the colleges. By accepting this suggestion we would only be intensifying their problem. Therefore I feel it would be better to keep the age of retirement at 55. This question was considered in all its aspects by the Government and finally they took a decision that it is not necessary to raise the age-limit beyond 55. Raising of the age-limit beyond 55 would raise further complications.

“ Then, Sir, these hon. Members as also the Leader of the Opposition raised a point regarding the Government Order prohibiting teachers who have been elected to the legislature or the local bodies from continuing in their appointment in the various educational institutions. I am looking into the matter and hope to issue revised orders very soon. I hope the revised orders would satisfy the entire teaching profession.

“ With regard to the remarks made by the hon. Member Sri Narayanaswami Pillai about the Public Service Commission, that has been fully dealt with by the Hon. the Chief Minister and therefore I do not propose to say anything further on this matter.

“ I wonder whether I should refer to the points made by the hon. Lady Member Mrs. Clubwala because I do not find her here now. Perhaps she felt aggrieved with the Hon. the Chief Minister because he did not choose to refer to them. It is not that he did not want to do it. It is due to want of time that he did not do it. Anyhow he has made a note of all the points made by the hon. Lady Member. Even if she is not here now I may assure her through you, Sir, that we will consider all the points raised by her with regard to social service. She made a suggestion that there should be a Minister for social service. After all social service is not a limited thing. Everything is social service, education, agriculture and so on. Any activity of the Government could be related to social service. With reference to the particular social service, namely, the Women's welfare, the Hon. Lady Minister is in charge of that portfolio. There is no particular purpose served in appointing a Minister to deal with social service alone. Social service is not limited, it is all pervading and the whole Government

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work is social service and people in charge of Government are social service workers. I may assure the hon. Lady Member once again through you, Sir, that we will take note of all the suggestions made by her with regard to various matters such as the Women's Food Council, the School of Social work, the beggar problem, and recruitment of women for the Police force, and do whatever is possible.

"I am glad, Sir, with regard to the Tramways, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is in agreement with me. I am sorry the hon. Member Sri Chakkarai Chettiar is not here now. The noise made by these trams was terrible and we are really happy that these trams are now out of the roads. The roads have now become broader and they are cleaner. I am sure people like Madras now much better than they used to before when the trams were running.

"Sir, with reference to tramway workers, I do agree that it is a problem but it is not a problem which is incapable of solution. They have all drawn their provident fund amounts and these are quite good sums too. The Government are also trying their best to give them some alternative employment. It is not as if their problem has not been considered at all. Many of them have already been absorbed in the Transport Department and, I am sure, some more will be absorbed. The Railway also have come to our help and they are also absorbing some of them. Therefore, it would not be a problem for long, even though some people are interested in keeping this problem alive and exploiting it. 5-30 p.m.

"The Pattagar of Palayakottai, as a practical agriculturist, has made very useful suggestions with regard to helping agriculturists and cattle-breeding. I am sure, the Hon. Minister in charge of Animal Husbandry will take note of the various suggestions made by him and whatever is possible will be implemented as early as possible. He made a reference to the question of using the water of the Siruvani river for irrigation by taking it through a tunnel to the Noyyal river. This is rather a ticklish problem. The Siruvani Scheme is purely a drinking water scheme supplying drinking water to about two lakhs of people residing in the Coimbatore city. A few years back, an experiment was tried to let water through the tunnel. It proved a failure in the sense that a portion of the tunnel was washed away and water-supply to the Coimbatore city was obstructed for a few days. Therefore, the matter has got to be looked into very carefully and that is why we have asked the Chief Engineer to look into the whole matter and submit a report with reference to the feasibility of letting more water through the tunnel. If it is found feasible and if more water is available in the Siruvani which is not required for the drinking water needs of the Coimbatore city, certainly, it will be made available to the Noyyal basin. Hon. Members need not, however, be under the impression that the water is being wasted now. As a matter of fact, it reaches the Bhavani and through the Bhavani it is being utilised elsewhere. The only question is, whether it should be diverted to the Noyyal basin or not. That matter is

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under the consideration of the Government and certainly if it is possible, without detriment to the drinking water needs of the Coimbatore city, to let water through the tunnel to Noyyal for the benefit of the fields in that area, that will be taken into consideration. We have also, in this connection, to take into consideration the costs which we will have to incur for the purpose of strengthening the tunnel. If it is economical or if the ryots who are likely to be benefited, come forward to meet the entire expenditure, certainly, we will take it up and try to do whatever is possible.

“ Sir, with reference to the palmyra tax which was referred to by the hon. Member Mr. Adityan, I want to say that as far as the palmyra tax is concerned we have abolished it. In the place of the palmyra tax, we have to collect some land tax. The question at what rate land tax is to be collected, has got to be decided. That cannot be done off-hand. In this connection, regular settlement proceedings have to take place. We have also to take into consideration the nature of the soil, its productivity, rainfall and other factors and then fix the rate of assessment. That cannot be done immediately. So, what we have done is that we have adopted the highest dry rate prevailing in that area and not the wet rate. That is not going to be a permanent measure. Therefore, hon. Members will realise that in order to give immediate relief, we have adopted this formula of the highest dry rate prevailing in that area and it is not as if all persons are bound to pay this highest rate. If, so far, they have been paying less than Rs. 2-8-0 or Rs. 2 as land tax plus palmyra tax, there will be no enhancement. So, if a person has been paying less, it would not be enhanced at all. In that connection, the hon. Member, Mr. Adityan, made a threat that he would resign his seat in this House. I have not taken it as a threat but I have taken it as a promise. I hope he will fulfil the promise made on the floor of the House.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ I have also made a promise that the people would not pay this tax. It is a burdensome tax; it is a cruel tax; and it is an unjust tax.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ Has it suddenly become cruel, Mr. Chairman? ”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I know why he is making this offer of resigning his seat in this House, but it is not necessary to go into it now. He expects an Assembly seat to fall vacant soon and he wants to take advantage of it. He is welcome to do it and we shall fight out the issue there and, therefore, it is not necessary to mention it on the floor of the House. After all, it is very easy to get such a cheap popularity by saying, ‘ I have fought for this issue and I have resigned on that issue only ’. He is quite capable of doing that. It is just like him to make this threat or promise.

“ Lastly, I wish to refer to the language problem, to which reference was made by Mr. Gajapathy Nayagar.”

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SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Why not the Hon. Minister speak in Tamil? "

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not as if I would not be able to express myself in Tamil. As a matter of fact, my own view is that I will be able to express myself better in Tamil without using any English words. But unfortunately we have got our Malabar and Kanara friends. Are we to make them feel that they are aliens in this House? Therefore, as long as they are with us and as long as we continue to be in the composite State, with Malabar and South Kanara forming part of it, we have to be a little bit patient. After all, we form the major portion of the State and it is the duty of the majority to be considerate to the minority and especially to the linguistic minority. I would, therefore, appeal to the hon. Member, as a true Tamilian befitting the Tamilian culture, to be more tolerant in this respect. We should take into account the points of view of the other hon. Members who form the minority in this House. It is only from that point of view, I have been making my speech in English; not that I love Tamil less than Mr. Gajapathy Nayagar. If we are unable to adopt immediately the Tamil language as the official language for transacting business either in this House or in the other House, it is not because we do not love Tamil or do not have the desire to have Tamil as the official language but because we are living in a composite State and we should not act in haste. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Member to think over it a little more, and I have absolutely no doubt that if he thinks over it, he will agree with me that we need not be hasty and we have to go a little bit slow in this matter. That is my appeal.

" One good point mentioned by Mr. Adityan is with reference to the coming New Year. At least in this respect, let me join with him in wishing a happy and prosperous New Year not only to you, Sir, and the hon. Members of this House but also to the people of this State. I am sure, we will have a better and more prosperous year in 1954. Thank you, Sir."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 2nd January 1954."

The House then adjourned.